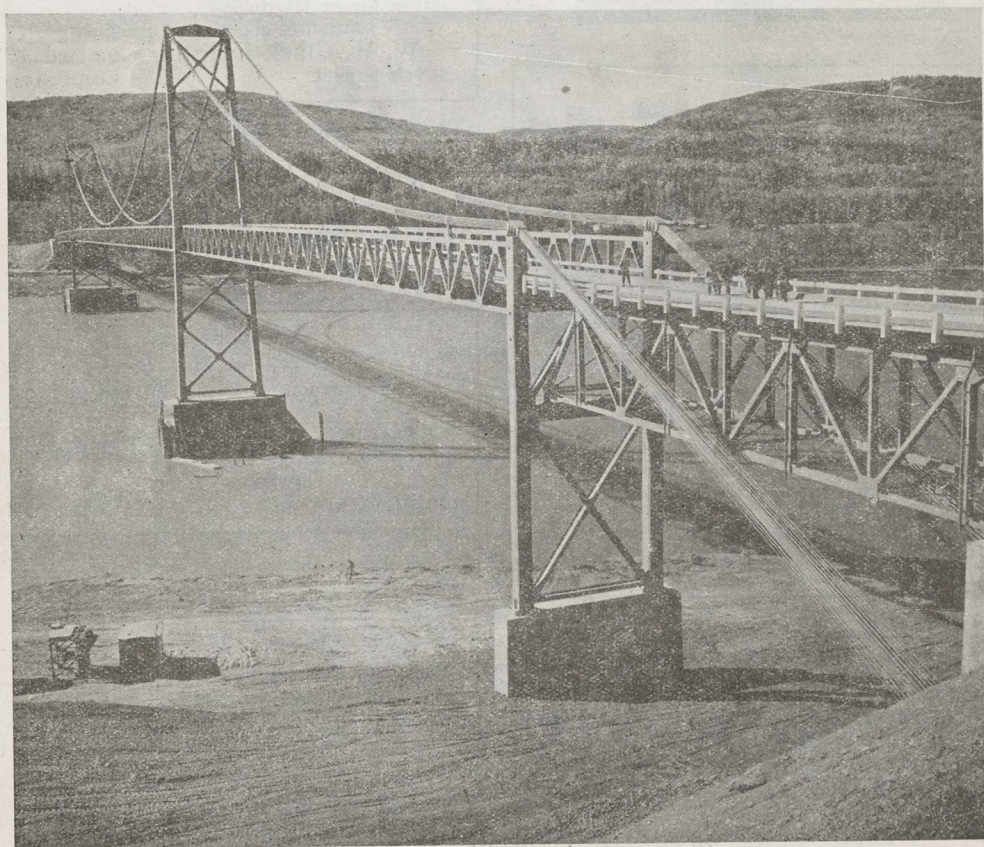


The Church Messenger

Volume X, No. 1

Diocese of Edmonton

January, 1944



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Church Messenger---Diocese of Edmonton

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Editor: The Rev. W. M. Nainby
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The publication of this magazine is to some extent, made possible by our advertisers, and we invite our readers, so far as they are able, to purchase their goods from them. Mail orders will receive the same courteous attention given to city customers.

A Happy New Year

We have all been wishing our friends the age old wish, "Happy New Year." Somehow there is a certain hollowness to the greeting, even though our hearts may be bursting with goodwill. 1944 can be a very happy new year, but from all present appearances it is likely to be a year full of much unhappiness for a multitude of people. The R.A.F. and the R.C.A.F. opened the New Year by dropping a thousand tons of bombs on Berlin, and that is likely to be the pattern of much of the year. No one can feel very happy about such a pattern, even for our enemies. The most we can hope is that such relentless bombings may help to shorten this war, and result in the sparing of countless lives which can and should be lived under much happier and useful conditions.

We were reading Noel Coward's "Cavalcade" again during the week-end, and came across the scene in which Robert and Jane Marryot greet the New Year of 1930 and Jane makes her famous toast:

"First of all, my dear, I drink to you. Loyal and loving always. Now, then, let's couple the future of England with the past of England. The glories and victories and triumphs that are over, and the sorrows that are over, too. Let's drink to our sons who made part of the pattern and to our hearts that died with them. Let's drink to the spirit of gallantry and courage that made a strange Heaven out of an unbelievable Hell, and let's drink to the hope that this country of ours, which we love so much, will find dignity and greatness and peace again."

Dignity, Greatness and Peace. How much finer than the "Health, Wealth and Prosperity" which we speak about as though it were all one needed in life.

And that is our wish to you all this coming year. May you find Dignity in your life and work throughout the year. May you find Greatness—the greatness of Service for your fellow men. "The Son of Man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister." And may you know something—even in a war-torn world—of the Peace which passes all understanding, which will some day lead all men and nations into the way of Peace.

Bishop's Engagements

January:

- 2nd—All Saints' Cathedral.
- 4th—Edmonton Deanery.
- 4th—Family Welfare Bureau.
- 5th—Week of Prayer Service—Metropolitan Church.
- 9th—St. Mary's, Edmonton.
- 12th—Trustees' Meeting in Winnipeg.
- 16th—St. Mark's, Edmonton.
- 23rd—University Christian Mission.

Diocesan News

On January 23rd, at 11 a.m., the Right Reverend Wm. P. Remington, of Eastern Oregon, will preach in All Saints' Cathedral. Bishop Remington will be a guest at the See House during the University Christian Mission which is being held at the University of Alberta from Sunday, January 23rd to Wednesday, January 26th.

The Rectory Fund

The response to my appeal for \$5,000 through the churches of the Diocese totals \$3,218.53. I urge upon all our people to reconsider and to respond to this appeal as they are able. Your subscriptions may be sent to the Synod Office and will be credited to your parish church.

APPORTIONMENT

With one week to elapse before the "deadline" date for 1943 apportionment, \$8,718.93 has been received at the Synod office. If further payments are made in January to the extent expected, the high standard set in the Diocese in 1942 will be maintained. There is good reason for encouragement in the response for 1943.

Many parishes faced increased apportionment in 1943 and nearly all have been paying quarterly in full.

More than twice as many parishes as ever before have met the apportionment entirely from givings through the "red side" of the duplex envelope.

This is a notable advance. The advance occurred in parishes where the leaders have been at great pains to inform their people of the great programme of our Church beyond their own parish. Those of our people who are best informed are most enthusiastic and desire to be real partners in the Church's enterprises. Advance has also occurred in parishes where there has been widespread and consistent distribution of the excellent publicity material now available from headquarters in Toronto and through the Synod office. The W.A. has been an increasingly important factor in broadening the vision of our people. Parishes where the duplex envelope system is being intelligently used have shared in the advance because the challenge of missionary work is presented fifty-two times in the year as an opportunity to every member.

Above all there has been shed abroad in the hearts of all of us a new understanding of and sympathy with our brethren in other lands or under other conditions of life. Many factors enter in—all of them are important.

The General Synod, of September last, adopted a further advance programme for 1944. The Executive Committee of the Diocese of Edmonton endorsed this programme and calls us to greater things in 1944. Our people appreciate the insight and courage of the Church's leaders and will only demand that all needed work be done.

—S.F.T.

DIOCESAN W.A.

"The Joy of the Lord is Our Strength"

The Executive members of the Edmonton Diocesan Board of W.A. extend good wishes to all members of the W.A. for a Happy New Year.

The Diocesan Little Helpers' Secretary makes an appeal: that all **unused** Mite Boxes be sent to her, as she is unable to obtain any new ones. Mrs. C. Fishbourne, 10128 112th Street.

UNIVERSITY CHRISTIAN MISSION

For some years past it has been the custom for outstanding Christian leaders and teachers to visit certain universities for the purpose of holding a Christian Mission. Such missions have been held regularly at U.B.C. and at many Eastern Canadian universities.

This month there is to be a Christian Mission to the University of Alberta, commencing on Sunday, 23rd January, and continuing to Wednesday, 26th January. The Bishop of Edmonton has been Chairman of the Committee responsible for the arrangements. The distinguished visitors will be as follows:

- Bishop Remington (Bishop of Eastern Oregon).
- Dr. Gilmour (Chancellor of McMaster University).
- Dr. Kilburn (formerly Dean of Medicine at the University of Shanghai).
- Miss Gertrude Rutherford (Principal of United Church Training College).
- Rev. Hugh MacMillan (General Secretary of the Student Christian Movement).

A number of important meetings for the students will be held, and the dates and times will be posted. Opportunities will also be given to all students to meet the guest speakers. Anglican students attending University are particularly requested to attend the meetings.

NEW RECTOR OF ST. PAUL'S, TORONTO

Canon F. H. Wilkinson, Rector of St. James the Apostle Church, Montreal, will leave early in January to become Rector of St. Paul's Church, Toronto, in succession to the Rt. Rev. R. J. Renison, recently elected Bishop of Moosonee. Canon Wilkinson will be remembered here as the guest preacher on the occasion of the consecration of Bishop Barfoot. He was also Rector of St. Stephen's, Calgary, for several years.

PASSING OF DR. BARONSFEATHER

Dr. Charles G. S. Baronsfeather, well known Edmonton physician, passed away at his home on Sunday, January 2nd. He had been in ill health for only a month, and up to that time had carried on a large practice at his residence.

The late Dr. Baronsfeather was born in Ireland, and educated at Trinity College, Dublin. He worked in the mission fields as a medical missionary of the C.M.S. and spent thirteen years in southern China, at Canton and Pakhoi. He operated his own hospital, and was also in charge of a leper hospital.

From 1920 to 1930 he practised medicine in Bournemouth, and then came to Edmonton.

He was a most valued member of the congregation of Holy Trinity, where for a long time he was teacher of the Boys' Bible Class. In 1933 he was appointed Lay Reader. He was usually present at both morning and evening services on Sundays. Every Wednesday afternoon he would close his office for an hour and hold a prayer meeting for any who wished to attend.

There was a large gathering of friends at Holy Trinity Church for the funeral on Tuesday, January 4th. The service was conducted by the Rector, and the Rev. Arthur Murphy, a close friend of the deceased, gave an eloquent message of comfort and tribute.

He is survived by Mrs. Baronsfeather, one son, Wm. N. Baronsfeather, of the R.C.N.V.R., and a daughter, Mrs. John Corbett, of Wexford, Ireland.

BROADCASTING

A number of subscriptions towards the cost of our weekly broadcasts over CJCA and CFRN have been received. One old friend of ours, who is bed-ridden, sends in a donation every week, and he always sends a cheery note of appreciation with it. We hope that all who enjoy the broadcasts will help to defray the costs. Those broadcasting will appreciate a letter from you, and will try to meet any requests for special hymns.

TO PLEDGE—OR NOT TO PLEDGE

From the leaflet of Holy Trinity Cathedral, New Westminster:

"To pledge or not to pledge—that is the question;
 Whether 'tis nobler in a man to gather
 The Church's blessings free, and leave the others
 To foot the bills and spread the gospel tidings,
 Or to take pen, to sign a pledge that's Duplex
 And share the cost. To write—to sign—to pledge—
 To pledge—perchance to pay! Ay, there's the rub . . ."
 Yes, there's the rub. And there's where it always heads up.
 It all depends on me."



THE REV. T. TEAPE

THE REV. T. TEAPE, who has been appointed to the work in the Cadomin Mission, and will make his home in Cadomin.

DIOCESAN NEWS

Somehow we had an especially warm feeling of kindness when we opened our mail, and found the various reports of parish activities. It made us feel that our correspondents were showing an extra faithfulness, in the face of all the Christmas rush and festivities. Sending in notes regularly, month by month, is a great test of "stick-to-it-iveness," and a number have fallen by the wayside. We hope they will all try again, nevertheless. The "Church Messenger" is weakened in its news value when parishes fail to report. Sometimes people stop subscribing because there is never any news from their parish. That is the fault of the parish, not the "Church Messenger." We would like to see a Reporter appointed in every parish, so that the whole Diocese can share your difficulties and rejoice in your successes.

We would also like to see a vigorous attempt to enlist new subscribers. For 50c you can get this magazine mailed to you direct, every month. Most church magazines cost at least twice as much.

Speaking of new subscriptions, we take off our hat to the correspondent of Holy Trinity, Edmonton, who, in December, sold over eighty subscriptions and is still going strong. It shows what can be done.

RELIEF FOR CHINA AND INDIA

Most of our readers will have heard or read of the tragic famine which has resulted in the death of thousands of people in India. One estimate has placed the number in terms of millions. A large area of Bengal, and other provinces have been affected and, in spite of prompt Government action, the situation is still serious. The Dominion Government of Canada has promised a substantial free gift of wheat if shipping space is available, and the

Government of India has drawn on its reserves to meet the present need, hopeful that the wheat from Canada will arrive to replace that already distributed.

The situation in China is infinitely worse, because the country is devastated by war, and millions of men are in the fighting forces who ordinarily would be cultivating the land. The fortitude of the Chinese people in the face of invasion is beyond praise, but the suffering is also beyond computation. For years China bore, and is still bearing, the brunt of Japanese aggression and savagery, and we owe her a debt we can never repay.

The people of Canada are being given an opportunity to contribute to the relief of our brethren in India and China, and a special appeal for this purpose is to be made on Sunday, January 30th. Envelopes will be distributed for your contribution. It has been suggested that a layman or laywoman be appointed in some parishes to assume the responsibility for the appeal, and to see that literature and letters be sent to reach all people and organizations. This is an occasion which calls for generous giving.

Rural Deanery of Edmonton

ALL SAINTS' CATHEDRAL

REV. CANON A. M. TRENDALL

REV. W. W. BUXTON

Our Christmas services at the Cathedral began with a Midnight Eucharist on Christmas Eve, at which there was a record number of communicants. Thank to all who helped with the decorations. The church looked beautiful and the lovely musical service combined with the well known Christmas hymns created an atmosphere of deep reverence and devotion. Attendance throughout the Christmas services were well sustained and the carol service on the Sunday evening was particularly beautiful and was enjoyed by a congregation which filled the church.

Over the Christmas season Sunday School parties were given to the Beginners' Sunday School and to the main Sunday School in All Saints', as well as a party to the Mission Sunday School. In addition to these an interesting evening of entertainment was provided for the choir boys by the Choir Boys Mothers' Association.

As we look back over 1943 we have reason to be deeply grateful to Almighty God for His many blessings. The congregations throughout the year have been large and on many occasions there have been more in the evening than in the morning. The proportion of young people at these services has been very gratifying.

Mr. Vernon Barford has gone East on a well-deserved vacation, and we wish him a happy and restful time. He will be back at the end of the month.

The annual meeting of the congregation will take place on Monday, January 24th, at 8 p.m., and we hope that a large percentage of the congregation will be present.

Confirmation classes will be starting at once and a large class is anticipated.

CHRIST CHURCH.

We do hope you all enjoyed the holidays and that you have your old resolutions all brushed up for the New Year.

During the past few weeks the walls of our church have been painted and the A.Y.P.A. are doing some "brush-work" in the parish hall. Aided by a donation from the W.A. it should not be long before we are all spick and span.

Our young people seem to have a new lease of life and have got away to a good start under Grace Willetts' leadership. The attendance is up and in addition to regular meetings the A.Y. is sponsoring a weekly Fellowship Hour following Evensong. These gatherings have been well attended and very enjoyable. Apparently they are partly responsible for the greatly improved attendance at our evening services.

A Young Women's Group—age from 21 to 35—was formed in November and is meeting on the first and third Monday evenings of the month. There has been an average attendance of about twenty so far and now the New Year has opened we expect further development. On Monday December 20th, a Christmas party was held, to which a number of the men in the Forces were invited.

The W.A. closed the year with a bazaar early in December, and at their meeting later in the month went into the business of spending the money they have raised. The bazaar was a great success, financially and in the matter of social contact, for we had a large number of our ladies out that day. The directions in which the W.A. spent their money at their last meeting indicates the variety of their interests. A total of upwards of \$900 was raised, out of which were paid the Annual Pledge of \$300; for Broadcasting, \$81.50; flowers for the Altar during the year, choir laundry, and sundry other items, including a donation of \$50 towards the redecoration of the parish hall. At the meeting on December 14 a Life Membership was presented to Mrs. A. J. Bellamy, in recognition of her outstanding work as leader of the Junior W.A. for the last eight years.

The Beginners' Department of the Sunday School held their annual Christmas party on December 20. The programme of choruses, songs and recitations by our 39 children was most delightful; and of course, the arrival of Santa Claus and his distribution of gifts for each of them brought the party to an exciting climax. The Junior Sunday School had their party the previous Friday, with a programme by various members of the classes, and a demonstration of magic by Mr. MacKenzie that mystified us all.

Our Christmas services were well attended, even though Sunday followed Christmas Day so closely. One of our most impressive services was that on the morning of December 26, when the Scouts and

Cubs, Guides and Brownies attended. During the service a flag, presented by Mr. John Turner, was dedicated by the Bishop, in memory of former members of our Scout Troop who have given or shall give their lives in the service of their country in this war. It is remarkable to note, that of our Honour Roll of twenty who have given their lives, at least fourteen are former Scouts.

Our Remembrance Fund Committee has done a great work this past two months in sending 80 parcels to our men and women in the Forces overseas, as well as 210 cards of greeting to our complete Honour Roll of those serving in Canada and elsewhere.

It will not be long before we are all having our annual meetings. This has been a good year for most parishes in the city, and we of Christ Church look forward to a year of greater activity and usefulness in the year that lies before us.

HOLY TRINITY

The Rev. W. M. NAINBY

W.A.:

The final business meeting of the year took place on Tuesday, December 14th, when the proceeds from our various activities were voted away. After all pledges had been met, and sundry donations made, we were able to hand the Vestry a substantial cheque towards the Mortgage Fund, which we hope will be cleaned up completely in 1944.

We regret the loss through illness this year of several of our older members, and wish them to know that we are thinking of them at this time, and look forward to their early return to the W.A.

Our opening meeting for 1944 will be held on Tuesday, January 11th, when election of officers will take place. New members are cordially invited.

Red Cross Group:

The opening meeting for the Red Cross Group will be held at the home of Mrs. May, on Thursday, January 13th, and not on January 6th, as previously stated.

Mothers' Union:

We take this opportunity of extending New Year's greetings to all our members, particularly any "LONE" members, with an invitation to join us at any of our meetings whenever possible in 1944.

There were eighteen communicants at our Corporate Communion Service on Thursday, December 9th.

The next meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. Browse, on Thursday afternoon, January 6th.

Young Women's Fellowship:

Our bazaar is now a thing of the past, and we would like to express our thanks to all our friends who came to see us and to support this annual effort. We are sorry some of the late comers were disappointed, but that seems to be the way of most bazaars this winter. We also wish to express our thanks to the Girls' Club for this opportunity of working along with them so amicably.

Our annual meeting of the year was poorly attended, probably due to so much sickness which is so prevalent just now. Our financial report was most gratifying, and we were able to vote a substantial sum to the Mortgage Fund, and also to our new Chapel Fund.

Our annual meeting will be held on January 12th, and we are looking forward to a good attendance.

Girls' Club:

Our annual bazaar which was held on December 3rd, was a great success, and we would like to take this opportunity of thanking all who so kindly patronized it. A donation was made to the Chapel Fund.

We held our Christmas party on December 20th at the home of Betty Price, when games and singing, followed by refreshments, made the evening pass all too quickly.

Several of our members have volunteered to be captains of the new Mortgage Fund drive. The first meeting of the new year will be held on January 3rd.

Good Companions' Club:

Our Club held a social evening in the basement of the church on December 15th, and there was quite a nice attendance of people who are interested in the work the girls are doing. Work done by the girls was on display—some of which was for sale, and we are glad to take orders at any time. During the evening a short programme was given, and Mrs. Tackaberry spoke on her recent trip to the East, and this was very much enjoyed. We recently sent \$20.00 and a second parcel to East Ham, a bombed out area near London, and \$10.00 was given to the Rector to be applied towards the Chapel Fund. Mrs. W. Tingle is in charge of the girls.

Choir:

On Sunday evening, December 19th, the choir presented selections from "The Messiah," and the soloists were Mrs. Mackie, Mrs. de Laroque, Mr. Wetmore, and Mr. Ledgard. Following the service, refreshments were served by the younger members of the choir under the convenship of Miss M. Smalian. We must admit that Mr. Wild did the right thing when he brought the pork pies along. They seemed to be the favourite item on the menu. Thanks, Mr. Wild, we'll remember to ask you again next time refreshments are asked for.

Parish Guild:

At the last meeting which was held at the home of Mrs. H. Hawe, we voted \$100.00 towards the Mortgage Fund. We are now busy making plans for a bridge which is to be held early in January in the Empire Room of the Hudson's Bay Co. Our annual meeting is to be held shortly, when the election of officers for 1944 will take place.

General Items:

Our congratulations to the Sanctuary Guild for the really beautiful manner in which the church was decorated for the Christmas season. The new screen was particularly attractive, and the whole church has never looked so beautiful.

The Sunday School Christmas party was the usual happy affair, and we welcomed the Garneau Sunday School to the party. Supper was enjoyed,

followed by games, and then we were most fortunate to be entertained by "Professor Frank," the ventriloquist and his dummy, "Seaweed," and the black magic of Mr. Norman Winterburn. Both entertainers were from the Royal Canadian Navy.

The Bible Classes combined with the Junior Choir to enjoy a theatre party, followed by games and supper in the church basement.

ST. STEPHEN'S

THE REV. J. C. MATTHEWS

Sunday Services: Holy Communion, 8 a.m.;
Sung Eucharist, 11 a.m.; Evensong, 7.30 p.m.;
Sunday School, 10 a.m.

Week-day Services: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday, Holy Communion, 8 a.m.

The annual parishioners' meeting is called for January 21st, at 8 p.m.

The Choir Christmas Festival was a great occasion. The anthems, solos and carols were rendered with a high degree of merit. The large congregation could not help but have been impressed by this beautiful presentation of the Christmas Joy and Glory! Thanks are specially due to Mr. White for his untiring efforts and to the guest singers and soloists for their kind and most helpful assistance. Mr. J. Green was the organizer and certainly made a good job.

The Sunday School Christmas tree was on the 29th—with a tea and games, an informal concert and a present for everyone. It is always a question whether to have the Christmas tree before or after the Great Day—but it seems more in accordance with Church custom to keep back the festivities until after the solemn season of Advent has ended.

The Midnight Mass is always the popular service and was well attended this year. However it seems to have the effect of reducing the attendance of the daytime services to a very low level. I don't know whether this is so in other churches but it certainly is so at St. Stephen's.

I should like to take this opportunity of expressing my sincere thanks for the very generous Christmas offering which I received.

ST. FAITH'S

THE REV. L. M. WATTS

The evening W.A. bazaar which was held in mid-December was one of the highlights of the month. Congratulations to Mrs. Cleveley and the members on a successful enterprise. Work thus rewarded becomes a pleasure.

It was a happy Christmas at St. Faith's. The church was nicely decorated in two ways. There was the tree, the coloured lights, the evergreens and all the seasonal novelties; and the people who decorated the pews. Attendances were good all through the season. We were glad of the Bishop's help on Christmas Eve, and we are grateful to the choirs for their help. The carol services on the Sunday were real expressions of joyfulness.

The Sunday School party was held on the Wednesday after Christmas. The teachers worked hard to make it a very happy party. The parish hall was full of fun from four to eight o'clock.

The boys of the Church Boys' League presented ten new Prayer Books as their Christmas gift to the church. Thank you, boys.

Under the leadership of Sgt. Pearson the U.S. Army Signal Corps entertained about thirty children from the parish on Christmas Day. This was a happy gesture on the part of our visitors and they doubtless enjoyed the party as much as the children.

ST. MARY'S

THE REV. A. ELLIOTT

W.A.: On December 8th a very successful tea and sale of needlework and home cooking was held at the home of Mrs. J. A. Ross. We were delighted with the results both socially and financially and wish to extend our sincere thanks to Mrs. Ross who so kindly gave us the use of her home for the sale. We also wish to thank all those who contributed so generously to the home cooking and fancy work table. Mrs. Urquhart, a former member of St. Mary's for many years, poured tea.

On Sunday, December 12th, we were pleased to have Flt.-Lt. Minto Swan, of No. 3 Manning Depot, at our morning service. His very thoughtful address was an inspiration to all present and we hope he may again at some future date find time to visit us.

We are looking forward to having our Bishop with us at Matins on January 9th and trust many will avail themselves of the opportunity of hearing him. Let us all try this year to be more regular in attendance at church services.

Sunday School: Our Sunday School held their annual Christmas tree on Wednesday, Dec. 22nd. Each of the two senior classes put on a play and the junior class recited. A fairy tale was shown on the screen and narrated by Mrs. Cuff. Much credit is due to all those who instructed the children. At the close each child was presented with a gift and a bag of candy by Mrs. Gee, who had celebrated her 80th birthday the previous week.

Junior Choir: Under the direction of Miss Lavina Davies the Junior Choir held a carol service in the church, Thursday, December 23rd. Peter Cuff, choir organist, and Donovan Rogers, violinist, rendered a duet, "The First Nowell." Nona Rogers, Agnes Clark, Betty Clark and David Cuff sang "Silent Night." Other members taking part in the service were Gordon Duhoke, Derek Henderson, Valerie Rutledge, Tevor Henderson, Annie Laurie Clark, Lester Henderson, Jean Lawrence Bernard Hiron and Gerald Henderson. This was the first service given by the Junior Choir.

ST. MARK'S

The children of the Sunday School held their annual White Gift Service on the Sunday before Christmas, with music by the Junior Choir.

Searchlights of the War on Great Subjects

I.—ON THE NEED OF RELIGION

By Rev. Ebenezer Scott, M.A., B.D.

People in England have become accustomed, in these times of war, to see searchlights flashing in the air. Though always a warning of possible danger, they have often come as a welcome relief in the total black-out of a winter night. They have had the effect, too, of making the common man fancy himself an expert in reading the signs of the sky. But behind these there are signs of the times which we must all set ourselves to watch. There are many great subjects on which this war is casting still fiercer searchlights than those which are visible to the naked eye. Let us consider some of them.

We place first of all, as that which beyond all others opens the windows of heaven on this earth, an old truth which in a striking manner has been revealed anew,—the Need of Religion.

Only a few days before the news reached us of the unconditional surrender of Italy, an event had occurred which was less sensational, and of less immediate interest, but which was of more significance as an incident in the perennial warfare of the human soul. This was the consent given by the highest authority of the Soviet state to the request of representatives of the Russian Orthodox Church for the power to elect a Patriarch of All Russia, and to convene a Holy Synod.

Bolshevism, it cannot be denied, had scored this distinct success even among our own people,—that it had made atheism a more respectable thing. We always had with us the atheist of the tub-thumping variety, and visitors to London from all parts of the Empire had taken in the atheistic orators of Hyde Park on a Sunday evening in their rounds of the metropolis. But people who would not want themselves to be classed with the vulgar spouters of the streets and parks could now inform you without a blush that they were atheists. For one of the greatest countries of the world had declared itself frankly on the side of atheism. It was an accepted fact that Russia was an atheistic country. But the truth has now come out. It was not a fact after all. The masses of the Russian people were not, and had never been, atheists.

The first act of Napoleon, on becoming Emperor, was to re-establish the Church of France. Napoleon's avowed reason was that the morale of a people could not be sustained without the foundation of religion. Whether there was any subconscious feeling of this kind working in Marshal Stalin's mind, we cannot say. That is his own affair. At all events, the initiative did not come from him. It is quite sufficient for our present purpose to view his official recognition of the Church simply as an act of statesmanship. For it is in this that its significance really lies. The delegates from the Church came not so much with a request, as with a report of the decision which the Church had already taken. What was the ground of their confident approach to him? It was that they knew they had the people behind them. Stalin knew it too, and as a statesman he accepted the position.

It was not only the voice of Russia that spoke, but the voice of mankind. Religion cannot be destroyed, because religion belongs to human beings. "Should you drive out Nature with a pitchfork, still she will every time speed back." Horace's well-known maxim no doubt can be applied to the evil tendencies of human nature as well as to the good,—to its rank weeds as well as to its fairest herbage. War has its own evil nature, and religion has often taken on vile forms, and prompted men to evil deeds. There is, indeed, always the danger, as we saw in our discussion on Religion and the War, that as we must have recourse to the grossest material weapons to bring this war to a victorious issue, we forget its spiritual purposes and the deep religious foundations on which it is laid. It must also be admitted that it was in some respects, a false religion which Russia had expelled, a Church which had overlaid its purer faith with its subservience to Tsarist tyranny.

Nevertheless, especially as there is good reason to believe that the Orthodox Church of Russia has been purged of the evil elements which gave its enemies their opportunity, the return of Russia to its faith and its Church, inspires us all with encouragement and hope. The deepest passion of human nature is the hunger and thirst after God and His righteousness. The Church of Christ is built upon a rock; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

Comments Original and Otherwise

NEITHER DID THE SHEPHERDS SEARCH FOR MY FLOCK

Canon Peter Green of Manchester, who was recently referred to by The Church Times as the most faithful parish priest in England, recently published an article in a London Church paper on the subject of Evangelism. It is rather disconcerting reading. Here in part is what he has written:

"We read in Holy Scripture of men—bad men I fear—whose custom it was to make a wide mouth and to draw out the tongue. Alas, that is exactly what I want to do when I hear at meetings, or read in the Press the remarks of our spiritual leaders on the subject of evangelism. Does anyone care anything about evangelism to-day? Have any efforts for evangelism been made in any diocese during the last ten or twelve years? A few experiences of my own may be of interest. Some ten years ago I was asked to speak on evangelism at the diocesan conference of a northern diocese. When I sat down one of the suffragans got up and said how important he felt the subject to be and how sure he was that all present would agree that the best evangelism was done with our own children in our day schools. Not another word on evangelism was spoken that morning, but educationist enthusiasts delivered what I suspect were the same speeches they had made at every meeting of the conference since they were elected. And the awkward subject of evangelism was shelved. Six months after I was asked to address the conference of a Midland diocese.

The first speaker, a young man, said that it did not seem much use addressing men and women whose views and habits were fixed. What we wanted was the young people, and so he would like to tell us what he was doing with his scouts. He did. And the rest of the morning was spent on the rival merits of scouts, brigades and lads' clubs. The awkward subject of evangelism was again successfully shelved. The really deplorable thing is that unless something is done, and done quickly there will soon be no man left alive who has ever conducted an evangelistic mission and so no one to teach a new race of evangelists. 'Oh for one hour of old blind Dandolo,' sang Byron. 'Oh for one hour of Canon Body or of Hay Aitken,' say I."

The final paragraph of Canon Green's article read as follows:

"A most experienced parish priest here in Lancashire wrote to me a short time ago saying, 'Unless something is done and done quickly our spiritual leaders will wake up some day to find themselves the officers of an army that no longer exists. Active evangelism is the need that dwarfs every other need of the Church.'"

That is true of England, and it is equally true in Canada.

HELPING OTHERS TO FIND CHRIST

The Bible selections and comments in Forward Day by Day for the second week of

November were based on the general theme "Helping others to find Christ."

Some of the comments made read as follows. Would that we had much more teaching on similar lines:

Religion has failed to keep pace with the onrush of paganism in our time. Tepid religion cannot compete with red-hot paganism. We must be on fire for Christ, and really seek to persuade others about Him. This is not the business of specially trained people: every Christian minister and layman should be a "fisher of men." Let us ask Him to help us.

Ask yourself: Is Christ the Source of what is best in our civilization? Is He the "Author of liberty," because He teaches the value of individuals, and shows us how to use liberty rightly? Is He my best Friend, the most powerful Force in my life? Then why am I hesitant or afraid to talk about Him? Where should I have heard of Him, if there had not been some with courage to speak of Him? Am I dodging a clear responsibility when I do not think He means me when He says, "Come ye after me, and I will make you fishers of men"?

A man is like an island. You sometimes have to row all around him before you find a place to land! Keep rowing—there is always a need. Pray and wait. You'll find it.

Arguments about religion, with a believer on one end and an unbeliever on the other, are less likely to convince an unbeliever than anything I know. An ounce of experience is worth a pound of argument. Keep away from argument. Keep to experience! Tell what has happened. Learn from the Man Born Blind!

The reason why going to church and hearing sermons and having discussions about religion leave many people still in the air is that no one pins them down to definite Christian decision. We do not "ooze" into the Christian life. We come into it by clear-cut decision. We shall fail people spiritually unless we help them see what such decision means, and stay with them until they make it.

IS BRITAIN A PAGAN COUNTRY?

That is the subject discussed in a recent editorial in a London Church paper. The writer quotes the definition of "paganism" as given in the Encyclopedia Britannica, and concludes that in that sense the term is not applicable, but he makes a strong appeal to the Church to find out "where the Gospel that it has been preaching has been corrupted and distorted by accommodation to the secularism and materialism that have long been eating into the European soul. It will need to make sure that the God Whom it worships and proclaims is not merely the God of the Western democracies, or of the United Nations, but the God, to whom the Bible bears witness, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God and Father of the Lord Jesus Christ. It will need to make sure that its Gospel is no other Gospel than the one that has been committed to it."

The concluding paragraph of the article reads as follows: "Last, but not least, it must be said that, while the Church ought to give up pandering to the foolish, and now popular, wish that the Gospel of God's salvation, which is eternal and in the heavenly places, should be presented as a plan for a new social order which will at its best be transitory and imperfect and will pass away like all things earthly, yet it must also acknowledge its guilt for failing to demand social justice, when the demand was unpopular. The Church has certainly to say that men must have bread in order to live, and that God commands that bread and material things shall be distributed justly, yet above all it has to say that men shall not live by bread alone, and that their destiny does not lie in this world."

FELLOWSHIP IN CHANGING SOCIAL ORDER

The instruction given in Forward Day by Day is always very helpful. The late Trinity issue was particularly interesting. Here is what the author had to say about the changing social order:

"The Church has never—and will never—put its seal on any political plan or economy. She looks askance at some as rankly un-Christian, and hopefully at others as nearer the Kingdom spirit. When the Church sticks to her Master she sticks to men and not to things. Life is more than meat; self support, not plunder; a decent living, and not huge acquisition. These are eternal principles. But underlying them all is fellowship. Are you caring about your brother next door, and in the Antipodes? Do you share not only your Father's 'goods' with him, but also his love and friendship?"

THE CHURCH AND POLITICS

The Archbishop of Canterbury, at the close of the Religion and Life week at Ipswich, laid down, not for the first time, a clear line about the part which the Christian ought to play in politics. He scouted the idea of forming a "Christian party" in the State: Christian citizens must work for the accomplishment of their aims through existing parties. More than one country on the continent has experimented with a Christian party, and always the results have been harmful both to the cause of religion and to political stability. In Great Britain the more immediate danger is that one or other of the recognized political parties should seek to claim a monopoly of Christian principles. As the Archbishop pointed out, political programmes are based on matters of fact, and involve technical judgments about which the most honest Christians may also disagree.

There are those in the Canadian Church who might with profit give heed to this counsel of the English Archbishop.

(Continued on page 7)



Come To Church!

By the Rev. B. S. Murray, M.A.

In boyhood days our Rector, the late Canon Noel, told us that the church bells repeated three words, "Come to Church!" Those dear old church bells, sacramentals if you will, carry, down the years, in city and country, o'er hill and dale, a personal invitation to come and worship Christ the

King. What memories of divine worship in God's house these bells stir in the hearts of church settlers in our Canadian backwoods. If they now could accept their invitation. The bells, however, to those within their sound, still peal forth their constant invitation warm, intimate, enticing to "Come thou with us and we will do thee good." Yet there are many who ask, "Why go to Church?" These persuade themselves that they can worship God anywhere and everywhere. They may, perhaps, but do they "attend" unto God in worship in places not conducive for divine worship? Surely such are not among the initiated who alone have proven the value of Christian worship in God's house. Too long have we tried to keep up with the world only to find life unsatisfying, hollow, meaningless. The call goes forth to get back to, and keep up with, God and hear Him say, "Be still and know that I am God."

So, **Come to Church** and worship God, for therein you will find one of life's most exciting adventures which prepares you for that great adventure of being a man—God's man—choosing ultimate good in preference to immediate pleasures. Baptism opens the door to the Church of God. Common prayer and worship, holy song and sacred study and helpful friendships prepare us for the gate of Confirmation which, by the sacrament of the laying on of hands—a lay ordination—leads us to the Blessed Sacrament through which we always receive Christ's life, His truth, His pardon, His healing power. And after we give to God ourselves, our souls and bodies, we consecrate our gifts, our time, talents and money for the extension of God's work. To neglect worship we withhold from God gifts which are His due, and cut ourselves off from His ordained way of communion with Him. Jesus, our Master and Example, as His custom was, went to His Father's house to worship; so must we follow in His steps. His promise still stands that where two or three are gathered together in His Name there is He in the midst.

Come to Church—to Christ—and receive spiritual guidance. He Who is the hope of the world has a solution for all—not some of—our problems. And the glory of the churches is

that they exist to proclaim Him. In Christ we find more than all we need. His Church—the Body of Christ—is His dwelling place and appointed instrument through which He conveys, by sacrament and prayer, His life to mankind. If you want to cleanse the inner sources of your life, come to church! If you desire to wake up the spiritual being, the son of God within a man, come to church! To wipe out corroding sin and get into personal contact with the Spirit of Christ, enter into His presence with thanksgiving and into His courts with praise and there hear His most holy Word, read and interpreted by His ministers.

Come to Church and find that aid which comes from social and helpful comradeship within the Church of God. We need to cultivate attendance at worship and benefit by this weekly encouragement to right living so that we may be kept within the sound of the Gospel and within cry of Christ. Life shows that those who do not worship in the appointed way lose their moral and spiritual health. Then, too, we need the ministry of song which appeals to and satisfies our emotional nature. To sing those old hymns and psalms, magnetised by saints, mystics and sinners, all down the centuries, takes us out of ourselves, stirs up whatever may be good in us and wafts our spirits heavenwards. Those hymns are a part of us and we cannot quite push them out of our lives. With their clarion call they urge us away from a world which too easily enslaves us to the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eye, and the pride of life. For sometime now we have so materialized life that God and sin are ignored and man enthroned only to find that chaos rules. It is beginning to dawn upon us, in this welter of confusion, that only with a right adjustment to God can we live the abundant life. Man needs Jesus Christ Who is the Prototype for successful and happy living. In worship, in His church, we forget things about us and things within us and there rise above ourselves. At our peril, by absenteeism, we neglect this divine and human aid to deliver our spirits from the power of the world.

Come to Church and share in the rebuilding of our broken, bleeding world. For centuries, since the Incarnation, the Church of God has had a program for a new social order. Unfortunately we have failed to co-operate in helping our Lord to make His dream come true. Today the democratic world is forced to renew its lease of the "Four freedoms" by blood, sweat, toil and tears. And we, on the home and Church front, have a part conjointly with those on the battlefield to win not only the war but also the peace, in which there will be "food, work, and home" (to borrow Prime Minister's Churchill's phrase) for each and all. The Church, mark you, provides the means towards that end. Why then neglect the Church

by our indifference and disable Christ's work, divide His Body, and delay His coming? The urgency of these days of crisis demands that we witness for Christ and His Church and by active service make the mission of the Church abundantly fruitful. If, in the past, we have believed in war and not in peace, accented a pagan philosophy in preference to the redemptive way, the Way of the Cross, and allowed scientific inventiveness to outrun our moral development, let us come back to God and, by making worship a joyous adventure, recapture our sense of proportion of things spiritual, ever remembering that the Church of God has the power as well as the priority of "faith, hope and love" embedded in her Gospel, "good news", old news, new news for the new age. The Church calls you to return to her fold and begin again by your worship, prayers and work to help her recover the fire of her first charity, so that you may share in the supreme adventure of seeing Jesus only and catch the encompassing Christian influence. You'll never be sorry when you

COME TO CHURCH!

COMMENTS

(Continued from page 5)

BIBLE PRINTING IN CANADA

It will come as a surprise to many people that up to the present time only four firms in the British Empire had the right to print Bibles. In the meantime cheap, inferior copies were coming into Canada—some even from Japan. The war has made a change. Bibles are now being printed in Toronto.

OUR LORD BISHOPS

I have just read a little booklet by Father Palmer. Anything from his pen is always worth reading. The booklet is entitled "Our Anglican Stiffness" and is an effort to explain the Anglican Church for the benefit of our separated brethren. Here in part is what he has to say about Episcopacy.

Episcopacy has been a stumbling block to some of our friends. They have never forgotten the pompous old Bishops of the dark days of the Church. It is "Prelates" not "Bishops," that they fear. They are probably put off by our "Lord" Bishops. There was a time when even colonial Bishops were rather inclined to be Lordly. It is one of the things we are ashamed of. Perhaps we might humble ourselves by giving up that rather meaningless title, as the Bishops of our Church in the U.S.A. have done. In the meantime let our friends of other communions be assured that it has nothing to do with the House of Lords or any claim to political power, but is nothing more than an honorary title like "His Worship the Mayor"—who is no idol to be worshipped, but only a worthy man; or "His Honour the Judge." "Lord" is the translation of "Dominus," which means "Sir." We could well manage without it.

ENGLISH RESERVE ABOUT RELIGION

In an article recently published in a London Church paper, Bishop Winnington-Ingram, formerly Bishop of London, tells this story from his own experience:

"I shall never forget attending a very distinguished man on his death-bed, and he said of a colleague who had just died:

"I always thought he was an atheist. I have met him every day for forty years, and when he died, found that he had been a Church-warden for 40 years of a famous Church in London."

"Could English reserve," asks the Bishop, "go much further?"

But I should be inclined to think it was not so much an excess of English reserve, as a lack of vital religion, that was responsible for this reticence. The first converts of John Wesley were Englishmen, but English reserve did not prevent them from telling their fellows about the change that had come into their lives. The same was true of the converts of William Booth and Prebendary Carlile of the Church Army. They too were Englishmen, but their English reserve did not result in their being tongue-tied where their religion was concerned. General Dobbie, and General Montgomery, and Lord Halifax are Englishmen also, and they are ready enough to bear witness to the Faith that is theirs.

TAKE OFF YOUR JACKETS AND GET TO WORK

I have just received a copy of a letter addressed to a local daily paper that had published an editorial accusing the Church of inadequacy in the matter of social reform. The letter was written by an earnest Christian woman. Here is what she said:

"Saturday's leader was not, I think, intended as anything more than a challenge. But I am afraid that it is an attack upon the Church that will be gleefully interpreted by all those individuals who, repudiating all personal responsibility for the health and well being of the Christian body, confine themselves to destructive criticism. The Church being made up of human beings, is sadly imperfect; no one can be more conscious of this than faithful Church-people. But it does sound the challenge of Christianity; nor is the voice so muffled that willing ears cannot hear.

"I have perfect sympathy with the aims and objects of welfare organizations, but I am convinced that unless all such efforts to improve social conditions are based on a strong Christian foundation they are doomed to failure. I believe that there is a great deal of true idealism behind much of the social and political legislation of the moment; there is a genuine desire to champion the cause of the

under-dog, but surely history should teach us that high ideals and Beveridge plans are not enough. They can be projected and organized but they cannot be implements without the dynamic of Christianity. And if those who jeer at the Church would remember that 'The Church' is not as they infer, the clergy and a selection of lay workers, but themselves and their friends and relatives and everyone in the community who professes Christianity, they might take off their jackets, roll up their sleeves and set to work to make the Church the power it is meant to be."

In these days of many plans and schemes for social betterment I have not come across anything more sane and sensible.

CONVERSION THE WORD FOR TODAY

A London Church paper has announced that Dr. Winnington Ingram, formerly bishop of London, will shortly publish an article on that subject. If conversion is the word for today, then it is a word that finds in Canada astoundingly little utterance.

HONAN SUFFERS A MAJOR FAMINE

Unrelieved by even one good crop, famine has stalked through the Province of Honan in China for the last sixteen months.

WAR, DROUGHT, LOCUSTS, FLOODS, PRICE-INFLATION, have taken a high toll of life. In the area of Chengchow, one of our missionaries estimated that about one-third of the population have died of starvation. Many thousands of others have trekked West into other provinces where food is available.

Children have suffered cruelly! Parents, unable to feed them have sold their children or abandoned them by the roadside! Older daughters have been sold into the life of an harlot in order to get money to buy food for the family!

The missionaries of all denominations joined with the Chinese pastors at Chengchow in forming a voluntary local committee of the International Relief Committee, to care for the people. Millions of Chinese dollars have been spent on the purchase of grain for the people of eighteen districts, for relief camps, a school and for medical care for the sufferers. Yet this met only a limited part of that overwhelming need. The comparatively small sum of relief money sent by our Church was a boon to our missionaries in giving relief to those who came to the mission compound.

One day a little girl, so nearly starved that her eyes almost frightened one, went to Miss Greta Clark of our Mission at Chengchow and begged her to take her into her home as a slave. Miss Clark replied that she didn't need a slave, but that she did need a little sister

just her size. The child was thrilled. Every day she received her food and sometimes a little money. Later Miss Clark arranged for her to live in a refugee camp. This is just one of the little lives saved by this missionary who has sold everything she had of any value in order to secure money with which to care for babies, little children and adults who came to her. Among the adults, she gave food regularly to twenty-four girls attending classes at the mission who would otherwise have been sold into a harlot's life.

In March Miss Clark was asked by the International Relief Committee to supervise an effort for the rescue of abandoned children.

The Rev. W. H. Simpson of our Chengchow mission has been chairman of the food buying Committee for the International Relief Committee and later has been acting as Treasurer.

This winter the famine situation in Honan promises to be even worse than last.

Honan people are among China's best resources; they are strong, hardy and resourceful.

GIVE THAT THEY MAY LIVE! HONAN FAMINE RELIEF SUNDAY— JANUARY 30

Gifts should be given through your church, marked "Honan Famine Relief Fund", or be sent direct to the M.S.C.C., 604 Jarvis St., Toronto, 5, Ont. Make cheques and money orders payable to:—M.S.C.C.



HELP FILL UP THE EMPTY BASKETS!

APPRECIATION OF A PADRE

A friend of the Home-maker's page in the Globe and Mail sent this excerpt from a soldier's letter referring to a chaplain with his regiment in Italy:

"I think I mentioned in my previous letters that we have a very fine padre. Last Sunday our platoon was camped away up on a hill. It was cold, barren, bleak and miserable. The padre walked out four miles, bringing maps to show and explain the news to us. He then gave us a little sermon. He is one of the finest men I ever hope to meet. He marches with the rest of us and even carries rations. He always has a smile on his lips and a cheery word, whatever the circumstances. He certainly gives us a spiritual uplift. As Montgomery says: 'I would no more think of going into battle without my padres than I would without my artillery.'"

They All With One Consent

Robin Skey

"No, I don't go to church," the Man-in-the-street admitted to Bixby, who was canvassing in the interests of church attendance. "Well, maybe I go on special occasions," he added, "or when there's a man in the pulpit with a real message. However, I figure I'm just as good as those who do go and maybe a whole lot better than some of them."

The above is the favourite argument of our friend, the Man-in-the-street, when faced with the question of his responsibility to God. Such, he will tell you with a touch of defiance, is his opinion. And, he might add inaudibly, you can take it or leave it. It satisfies him and that is the main thing.

The strange thing is, that like the big nickel on the collection plate, the habit of comparing ourselves with others carries little weight, except in connection with what some people rather vaguely term "religion." For instance, my friend Psmith, who is fond of the above noted line of reasoning, works in the Nonsuch Tool Plant, where he has served faithfully for many years. Recently the management appointed Willoughby as foreman in Psmith's department, much to my friend's disgust. He was just as good as Willoughby, he argued, and maybe a whole lot better when it came to handling men. But when echoes of Psmith's dissatisfaction reached the boss, the big man snorted, "Where does he get that 'just as good' stuff?"

Buzz Black is a veteran of the last war. He enlisted in 1914 by giving his age as nineteen. He is now forty-six. Times without number he has tried to join up in the present conflict. But the people at the recruiting office only smile tolerantly and shoo him away. "You're too old, chum." Blackie thinks they're crazy. He claims he is just as fit as Peters and Warburton and they got in. So why not he? But Blackie's opinion is not the deciding factor.

These are two out of many instances where the "just as good" argument falls flat. Watch your own reactions the next time your news vendor tries to palm off That Other Rag as a substitute for your favourite evening paper. Maybe the Average Man believes with the cynic in Omar Khayyam, who said, "Tush, God is a good fellow,"—so good that He is willing to accept the excuses of His hard-pressed children here below.

Even if the "just as good" line is an honest opinion, it is irrelevant. Real religion is based not on opinions, but on convictions. And strangely enough, the Man-in-the-street is a creature of strong convictions, ready to back them up by argument, or by the force of his strong right arm, if need be. Remember 1914 and again in 1939, when he sprang to the colours in defence of the things he held dear,

with an alacrity that was as creditable as it was amazing? The same holds good of his British cousins. The worst ravages of Hitler's vaunted Luftwaffe have left him undismayed. Try to take away his beer, or his right to grumble whenever occasion offers, and see how deep-rooted is his belief in his right to order his life as he sees fit.

But apparently the Man-in-the-street does not regard the mission and message of the Church as being of sufficient importance to arouse his deepest convictions. Or perhaps the fault is ours. Is it that we who have accepted discipleship have failed to demonstrate by our actions the worthwhileness of the faith we profess? If so, it is high time to put our house in order.

Now, it has been said that while the Average Man has little use for the Church, he is tremendously attracted to Christ. One hopes this is true. At any rate, he might be interested in letting his imagination play around those who have been called 'the men who crucified Christ'. When summoned to answer for their share in the tragedy of Calvary, will they too resort to excuses? There in imagination before the throne of judgment we behold the Roman soldier, who plaited the circlet of thorns that crowned the brow of the Suffering One. Will he make answer, "Lord, how was I to know you were the King of kings? I thought you were just an ordinary Galilean peasant. You won't be hard on me! Look at your friends, who cried out in glad acclaim on your triumphal entry into Jerusalem and yet lifted no hand to help on the day of your agony." And these latter, when confronted with the consequences of their apathy, will they argue, "Lord, the fault belongs to our leaders. Our hearts were sore grieved when they for envy delivered you to be crucified. But who are we to question the actions of those wiser and greater than ourselves?" And the rulers of the Jews, trembling and hesitant, their proud eyes now downcast in a strange humility as they plead, "Lord, if we had only known! Truly we were blind leaders of the blind. But surely the real blame lies with the weakling, Pilate, who, convinced that you were innocent, condemned you to death." And Pilate, a shrinking, desperate figure in his once proud royal purple, will he too join in the chorus of excuses? "Lord, I do confess my sins this day. Verily I was weak and easily swayed on that dread day in Jerusalem. But I have suffered—though not as you suffered! Even so, I am not to be compared with Judas, who sold his best friend for money."

I wonder! Do we really believe in the One

(Continued on page 12)

JANUARY



1. Circumcision of our Lord.
2. SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS
6. Epiphany of our Lord.
9. FIRST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY.
13. Hilary, Bishop of Poitiers, and Confessor, circ. 368.
16. SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY.
21. Agnes, Roman Virgin and Martyr, circ. 304.
22. Vincent, Spanish Deacon and Martyr, 304.
23. THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY.
25. Conversion of St. Paul.
26. Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna, Martyr 155.
27. John Chrysostom, Bishop of Constantinople, Doctor 407.
30. FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY.

YOUTH'S PART IN THE CHURCH

The Archbishop of Canterbury addressed a special meeting for youth, arranged by the Industrial Christian Fellowship, in the Central Hall, Westminster, on Saturday.

"What do we look for," asked Dr. Temple, "as the special contribution of young people to the life of the Church and the establishment of a more Christian social order? We hope especially for two qualities, loyalty and adventure. The loyalty of Christian youth must be first and foremost to Christ Himself. Active and eager membership of His Church need not and should not imply a passive docility in face of the counsel of elders. We want people who are ready to make adventure. Some of the adventures will end in disappointment; some of them will bring rebukes from ecclesiastical authorities, middle-aged folk like myself who will be shocked and horrified. Never mind! Sometimes the adventures will be right and the authorities wrong. Be ready to stake yourselves on what you believe is right. Then, even if your career ends in disappointment, there will be something noble, even if there is no success. We want adventure in thought; in new ways of expressing our loyalty; in worship and in conduct."

The Church Times

GIVING BACK BUDDHA

Timid and shy, a little Japanese woman entered C.D.V.O. salvage headquarters a few days ago. The weight of the huge bronze Buddha she carried was almost too much for her. She stumbled as she placed it on a desk. There it sat, massive, stolid, a relic two feet high and almost 900 years old, out of place in the efficient atmosphere of a modern office. Trembling, the little woman of Nippon explained. "This was a gift to us. We are Japanese Christians; we want no graven images. This must not be saved by some curio collector. It must be smashed and melted and sent back to Japan as bullets!"

The New York Times

THE UNUSED TALENT

If a single individual, Saul of Tarsus, could become the means by which enough spiritual power and wealth were drawn from the spiritual world to wonderfully enrich human life down to the end of time, we Christians ought to be able to draw from the same source enough spiritual power and blessing to make this world a different place from what it is.

We are, in fact, living, in a great measure, upon the spiritual wealth brought over from the unseen world by the early Christians, and at the same time fail to realize that the spiritual world is as accessible to us as it was to them, and that its mighty resources are just as available to us now as they were then, and are as inexhaustible as ever. The wealth stored there would benefit mankind far more wonderfully than the millions of our philanthropists, if it could be brought over and made to minister to the deeper needs of humanity.

We Christians are the ones to do this, because we are God's children and have inherited the promises of Christ which have thrown open to us the Treasure House of His Kingdom, freely, "without money and without price." "Freely ye have received, freely give."

We may have a comfortable feeling that while we have not done much good, we have, at any rate, not done much harm; that our lives might be called neutral, neither one thing nor the other. But that is like the man who hid his talent in the earth. We all have had a talent entrusted to us, the right to draw freely upon the Heavenly Treasure House for the necessary power to become a blessing to the world around us. What use are we making of this talent?

—FREDERICK W. NEVE.

Do the throngs in the city press upon Him for healing? He never turns anyone away. And we see Him at last rise victorious over death.

Mountaineering in Quebec

On November 1, 1793, 'thirteen Mountains' landed in Quebec. The party included Bishop Jacob Mountain, his wife and family, his brother Jehoshaphat with his wife and family, their two sisters and the Bishop's sister-in-law, Miss Kentish.

The Quebec Cathedral, erected through Bishop Mountain's efforts has recently celebrated the 150th anniversary of this momentous landing. The celebrations commenced on Oct. 31st. The Rev. Thos. Millman delivered a most interesting sermon. He dealt at length with the life and work of Jacob Mountain, and gave his hearers the benefit of the exhaustive studies he has devoted to this subject. This sermon is being printed. It will be placed on sale as soon as possible.

On All Saints' day solemn memorial was made of the first Bishop at the Cathedral altar. The following Sunday the Archbishop of Nova Scotia preached at the Choral Eucharist, and the Bishop of Fredericton at Evensong. The following morning the House of Bishops of the Province of Canada met in session at Bishopthorpe, and at 8 p.m., a Service of Commemoration and Thanksgiving was held in the cathedral. The choir, drawn from various Quebec churches sat in the west gallery. The music was, as far as possible, such as might have been used in Bishop Mountain's time, the anthem being "O Come Ye Servants of the Lord", composed by Christopher Tye in 1553. Dr. Basil Jones, Dean of Divinity at Bishop's University, Lennoxville, delivered a forceful and masterly sermon. The Te Deum was sung at the conclusion of the Service.

The celebrations were brought to a fitting close the following Sunday. In place of the usual sermon at Evensong the Dean read extracts from Bishop Mountain's celebrated 'Nile Sermon', preached in the Jesuit Chapel, Quebec, on January 10, 1799, at a Service of Thanksgiving for Nelson's glorious victory over the French at the Nile.

In connection with this anniversary an exhibition was prepared illustrating the life and times of Bishop Jacob Mountain. On well-lighted stands placed against two sides of the hall were pictures and documents tracing the Bishop's life from his baptism at Thwaite All Saints, Norfolk, 1749, to his burial in the Cathedral at Quebec in 1826. And below these were pictures illustrative of some of the events happening in the world at that time. Thus below the certificate of his baptism in the reign of George II was the celebrated picture of Dr. Johnson in the ante-room of Lord Chesterfield, strongly prophetic of Bishop Mountain's efforts to enlist the support of those in authority for his work, efforts which were frequently as unproductive as were Dr. Johnson's. Pictures showing the Bishop's Cambridge career had appended to them scenes illustrating the successful efforts of the American Colonies to achieve their independence. Photos of St. Andrew's, Norwich, where the Bishop spent seven happy years as Perpetual Curate, were flanked by scenes of the French Revolution, the horrors of which cast their dark shadow over England at that time. The year 1793 was the year France declared war on England. The Bishop and his party



The Cathedral of Holy Trinity and Champlain Elm.



*The Right Reverend Jacob Mountain,
D.D., First Bishop of Quebec*

were unpleasantly reminded of this fact when the ship in which they were crossing the Atlantic was sighted and chased by a French man o' war, and but for the timely arrival of their convoy the 'thirteen Mountains' might never have landed in Quebec. A map, prepared by Canon Kelley showed the vast extent of territory the Bishop covered in the course of the seven visitations that occupied his episcopate, and indicated the places where churches were in operation in the year 1816. Many of these places were illustrated, and also some of the clergy whom he had ordained. These included the uncompromising features of John Strachan, afterwards to be consecrated first Bishop of Toronto, a place which Bishop Mountain knew as York.

A section of the exhibit was devoted to the story of the cathedral, opened in 1804, and showed a beautiful steel engraving of the Church of St. Martin in the Fields from which it was copied, as well as specimens of the books and a picture of the plate with which King George III enriched it.

Pictures of Canning and Castlereagh were reminders of the visit to England paid by the Bishop in 1805. While his second and last visit in 1819, was marked by a portrait of the Princess Victoria, born that year. The picture showed her Royal Highness, aged four. It was entitled the Dawn of the Victorian Era.

The Bishop spent his old age in Quebec, and died there in 1825. He was buried beside the altar in his own cathedral, and the entry of

his burial copied from the cathedral registers showed that this solemn act was witnessed by the leading citizens of the city which had been his home for over thirty years.

An unrehearsed incident of the celebrations was the discovery of two pieces of a silver communion set sent out by King George III in 1766 and lost for over a century. In the Minutes of the Council of the Province for 1766 there occurs an entry recording a letter from General Jas. Murray in which he hands over the 'Chapel Plate and furniture' for the use of the Episcopal Church, with the request that it be handed to the Churchwardens so soon as the parish is organized. This is no doubt the plate that was in use when Bishop Mountain arrived in 1793. It seems that after the cathedral was erected in 1804, and the magnificent set of plate designed for it had been received from the King, two pieces of the original set disappeared. Only this month was their whereabouts discovered. While the Rev. Thos. Millman was staying in Quebec he remarked to the Dean that when we went to Frelighsburg he found an old Georgian silver flagon and paten, bearing the Royal arms, and dated, he had ascertained 1763. The Dean at once thought these might be the missing pieces of the 1766 set, which were also dated 1763, and bore the Royal Arms. Mr. Millman generously undertook to send his two pieces to Quebec for comparison. They arrived on Monday, November 8. The Dean, Canon Kelley, and Mr. A. E. Williams, of the cathedral, unpacked them, and after careful comparison of marks and stile, they were all convinced that the missing pieces had turned up. They were placed on view at the Mountain Exhibition the same evening, and it fell to the Dean to announce that a separation of over a century was ended, and the four pieces were once more happily reunited.

(See the February issue.)

THEY ALL WITH ONE CONSENT

(Continued from page 9)

"unto whom all hearts be open, all desires known and from whom no secrets are hid"? We who profess to be His followers can least of all afford to be complacent in the light of that great truth. Some of us are all too ready at times to dally with the just-as-good argument.

Our course is plain. We must faithfully and humbly preach—and live—Christ crucified, then having done our duty to the utmost to the indifferent and apathetic, leave the results to Him. After all, as John Wesley is reported to have said, "Only the power that made a world can make a Christian."

At the same time I humbly confess that the Man-in-the-street is my responsibility and I pray for the time when he too will respond to the challenge of the Crucified One, who is also King of kings and Lord of lords. May that day soon come. For the Man-in-the-street, loveable both in his faults and in his virtues, is most definitely worth winning for Christ.

One Hundred Years Ago

New Brunswick Bishopric. A Committee acting under the authority of the Archbishops and Bishops in England appealed for £30,000 for the above bishopric. A sum was raised in New Brunswick. The Committee appropriated £20,000 from funds at its disposal to this object and in response to its appeal for subscription, further sums were received and on 21 Nov., 1843, only £4000 more was needed. ("The Church", Jan., 1844).

Bishop of Montreal to S.P.G. 24 Jan., 1844. Quebec—I purpose, if so permitted, setting out upon the 3rd of next month upon my tour through the missions of the District of Quebec which will complete the whole circuit. (S.P.G. Letters). Six missions were visited early in 1844, two churches were consecrated, 219 persons confirmed. Valcartier, New Ireland and Rivière du Loup had become seats of fixed missions, the two former had each three churches. . . . The whole number of miles travelled in accomplishing this Circuit (1843-44) of the diocese was 3752. (Memoir of G. J. Mountain 242).

L'Acadie, L.C. 8 Nov., 1843. Mr. Chas. Forrest, Catechist, of Christievill (Iberville) was publicly thanked (in the columns of "The Church") upon his retirement following the appointment of a clergyman by the Protestant inhabitants of L'Acadie. Thos. Cousins, Chairman; John Stoddart, Secretary.

University of King's College. To the editor of "The Church", Toronto, Oct. 31, 1843. The Presbyterian Circular advocated a new Constitution for the University . . . The next step proposed is to abolish every shade of religion in the University except the naked profession of belief in the Bible, a profession which will include unitarians. I do not regard the proposal to confer degrees in Divinity as a mark of religion. It is sheer impiety to confer authority to teach in Theology upon persons of every Church and Sect.

James Beaven.

Hon. Robt. Baldwin's University Bill. In a Bill of so godless a character as that which provides for the destruction of the University of King's College, Toronto, we find falsehood in the very Preamble which says that King George IV meant to establish a college in which all classes and denominations were to have conjoint control. A Noble Memorial has been presented to the Legislature by the Lord Bishop against Mr. Baldwin's revolutionary bill ("The Church", 17 Nov., 1843). The Bill is designed to abrogate the Charter, overthrow the youthful fabric so lately and auspiciously erected and elevate on its ruins a fanciful structure of the composite order of architecture, licked into shape by the joint efforts of three intellectual giants of the day, Mr. R. Baldwin, Mr. Egerton Ryerson and Rev. Pro-

fessor Liddell. (Toronto Patriot, 24 Nov., 1843).

Bishop of Toronto's Memorial. "Such a fatal departure from all that is good is without parallel in the history of the world, unless some resemblance to it can be found in Pagan Rome. This measure unsettles all property by depriving the University of King's College of an endowment which is the gift of the Crown and introduces a precedent destructive to the very existence of society." After a slight discussion the Bill was found to be so clumsy, puerile and absurd that the abettors of the new Measure were glad to withdraw it from the ridicule they were creating. (Memoir of Bp. Strachan 239).

Colborne, District of Newcastle, 16 Dec., 1843. At a meeting held for purpose of erecting a church in the village of Colborne, it was resolved to appoint Messrs. J. A. Keeler, Goslee, Ruttan, Dr. Gilchrist, T. McMurray, D. Campbell and other committee to raise funds, the church to be erected in lot 31 of Chamahé. (The Church).

Rev. F. L. Osler. We, the ladies of West Guillimsburg, being desirous of testifying our grateful sense of your arduous labours, request your acceptance of the accompanying gown. We gladly embrace the earliest opportunity since your return to express our attachment towards you and regret our inability to present you with a more costly token. Jane Armsis, C. Fisher, F. Ginty, 13 Dec., 1843. ("The Church").

Bishop of Toronto's Correspondence, Jan., 1844. To Rev. T. B. Read of Port Burwell advising him how to overcome his difficulty with Mr. Burwell, Col. Burwell's generosity to the Church is mentioned. To the Rev. T. B. Fuller of Thorold explaining why he had not read the manuscript but thinks that a new edition of Hymns and Psalms with music would be too expensive. To the Rev. D. T. Phillips of Etobicoke warning him of over-working. To the Rev. J. Stewart concerning the Western, London and Huron Districts, churches at Malahide, Dobbie's Settlements, Dereham; conditions in Howard and Oxford Townships; to the Rev. E. Denroche of Brockville concerning some distinction in dress between the Clergy and Laity. To Rev. J. Carey of Walpole Island and Sombra — work among Indians. (Strachan Letters in Ont. Archives).

**Make Preparation Early For
Observing Lent**

A BOOK TO BUY



Only books are reviewed in this column which are recommended by one of the editors and which cost one dollar or less.

The books recommended will be available at the Book Room, 604 Jarvis Street, Toronto.

F. W. Dillstone,
C. R. Feilding,
Editors.

"THOMAS AQUINAS: SELECTED WRITINGS"

Edited by M. C. d'Arcy, S.J.

(Everyman's Library—90c)

"Peace", St. Augustine once wrote, "is the tranquility of order." In this short statement we have the heart of the lesson that medieval Christendom can teach us, who live in a far-from-peaceful age. Peace—of mind and heart, within the nation and among nations—depends, the teachers of the Middle Ages tell us, on order. Order, they insist, is only to be found among the servants of God, who freely submit their minds and wills to his.

This outlook finds its most lucid and most complete expression in the works of St. Thomas Aquinas. St. Thomas, the disciple of Aristotle and of St. Augustine, summed up in his teaching the wisdom of the schools of Greece, and welded that wisdom and the divine wisdom of the Christian faith into a remarkably coherent synthesis, whose range extends from God, the infinite Being, to the humblest beings in his creation. At the same time, as the friend of popes and of such kings as St. Louis of France, he was in close touch with those who were trying to apply the principles of Christian belief and Christian philosophy to the social and political problems of the age. Finally, as the great theologian and poet of the Eucharist, Aquinas taught his contemporaries, and continues to teach us who sing his hymns, something of the meaning of that act of worship in which study and action alike are dedicated to God.

In his little volume of forty-seven selections from the thirty volumes of the writings of St. Thomas, Fr. d'Arcy tries to show us in outline what the Angelic Doctor saw of the "beauty of universal order". The book begins with three sermons which, apart from their interest as specimens of preaching seven centuries ago, are of value as expressions of the spirit in which Aquinas undertook his great work. They are followed by the office of Corpus Christi, with its familiar hymns. The next ten selections make plain the purpose

which directs his work as, he teaches, it ought to guide all work—that men should become mirrors and partakers of the Wisdom and Goodness of God. In the next group of passages St. Thomas tries to make us see some of the things that we most need to know concerning God our Maker. The next selections, which deal with some aspects of our life in the world, are followed by three "Questions" on the Incarnation and the Sacraments, through which God unites us to himself, and the book ends with a passage on the love by which we are drawn to God.

This is definitely a book to read and ponder. With the greatest clarity and precision St. Thomas expounds the truths on which our life depends and whose understanding is as necessary for us as it was for him. In them we can find a standard by which to measure the movements of any age. As we read St. Thomas we come in contact with a mind that has above all a sense of order and proportion. One can only wish that those Christians who vehemently call us to follow the latest fad or fashion would learn from him that peace and justice are the fruit of minds and wills dedicated to eternal Truth and Goodness.

E. R. Fairweather.

IT CAN BE DONE!

The general question, "Are you satisfied?" was discussed by a clergyman of the Church of England, a minister of the Free Church, and a brigadier of the Salvation Army, at a three day convention held in Northamptonshire under the auspices of the Rothwell Christian Council.

The first speaker dealt with the question, "Are you satisfied with the Church?" He stressed the urgency of the need for united Christian witness and called upon his audience to further the work of the council. The following evening the subject was "Are you satisfied with the home?" The divine aspect of parenthood was emphasized. The nation was being challenged at its heart, the home. The third speaker, Brigadier Emma Davis, who was for several years in Canada, spoke on "Are you satisfied with yourself?"

The town has been singularly fortunate in the happy way in which the various denominations have worked together. The significance of their team-work in outdoor Services, in massed choral work in the great Parish Church, and on special days of National Prayer and Thanksgiving, has not been lost on the man in the street. The large crowds that attended the convention bore witness to the desire for such services.

The Christian Council arranged the annual Armistice Day Service which as usual was held in the Parish Church. The preacher for this turn was the Rev. A. H. Kobish, of the Methodist Church.

(Owen G. Barrow, Chairman)



Home Horizons

By Charity Mauger

The year 1944 seems destined to be one of big and momentous happenings. And this, the first week of the November previous to the opening of the fateful year of 1944, has done much to preface the way for a more successful peace than we could have dared hope, even a few days ago. Indeed the majority of the recorders and commentators of the Moscow Conference unite in proclaiming this week as a Red Letter occasion in the world's history.

The success of the Moscow Conference guarantees unity in aim and outlook for postwar problems. How deeply thankful we should all be that Russia is willing to take this course; otherwise there was little any other power could do to ensure it. The people who say, "Well I don't trust Russia even yet" might be asked "So what?" The hopes of the future with the World's Power united to see that as far as possible each nation, big or small, has justice and opportunity, and that the individual of each nation may have opportunity for development to his utmost capacity, are too much for us to comprehend all at once. Think of going to bed at night knowing that there is neither fear nor want in the world. When this objective seems within sight, even if there is a hard stretch between, our paltry restrictions and sacrifices seem trivial indeed.

We must not belittle the immediate duties. Every woman who is physically fit for the required jobs is needed. Every woman at home who can save food, use her knowledge of nutrition for the benefit of children, her own, or those of some woman in industry, give her spare time to some cause, at home or abroad, essential to the war effort, is being a good soldier and speeding the day. For the sake of the children many mothers can't get back to their home jobs too quickly, when they can leave their wartime duties.

There can never be too many

supplies of clothing or Red Cross materials on hand, and ready for shipments. Every country of Europe which has been in the war will need everything and anything. The starved and suffering peoples must be helped to the point where they have the will to help themselves. In fact it seems that the coming months require our most concerted and intelligent efforts directed towards a visible goal.

It appears as though the Russian people had been carried, by satisfaction in the tripartite pact, by the hope of a second front as they see it, by their 26th anniversary of the Revolution, from which 50% of the population stems, to a spirit invincible, as demonstrated by their military victories. We could well emulate that spirit.

* * *

FROM THE TIN TRUNK

I needed a new dressing gown so Bridget said, "Go to the tin trunk and find a plaid dress that belonged to my grandmother's cousin." The offer was a generous one, but it didn't sound particularly hopeful. A dress was one thing and a roomy dressing gown was quite another. Also material which had been in use in the 1860's would, one might suppose, be both faded and a bit shopworn.

The tin trunk yielded up the skirt without the bodice. But what a skirt! Hoops were in vogue in the '60's, large hoops, and this skirt was a matter of four yards around the bottom. A bias flounce, 16 inches wide, was six yards around. In addition to the flounce there were numerous stiff bows made from the material, put up and down and round about, at intervals.

The material was a hard finish serge, although it probably had a name of its own eighty years ago, a plaid with green and blue the predominating colours. The colours under the bias flounce and inside the pleats were exactly the same as the



portions exposed to the light. The edges of the pleats and the seams were as unmarked and unworn as the front and back panels. In fact the garment showed very little sign of wear, except the bottom which had trailed of course and looked rubbed. The whole skirt was lined with a soft material, with an extra band of lining at the bottom.

The entire garment had been made by hand, no mean feat. It was still quite secure, too, when the unpicking was done, only two bows had at some long ago day come unmoored, and been temporarily fastened down with pins. The pins had rusted firmly in place.

Bridget explained regretfully that the Connemara cloak which had been made of the same material, and completed the costume, had been stolen from the tin trunk some years ago. It had been lined with blue flannel, and the point which was brought up and flung over the shoulder to hold everything in place had been finished with a large blue silk tassel. The cloak was ample enough to cover the hooped costume.

WHO KNOWS BEST?

There seems a distinct cleavage of thought between those of us who remember the last war and its disastrous aftermath, and our youngsters who start with the present war, and feel we are "hard on the good Germans". The present issue seems so much more clear-cut, and its causes traced back so unerringly, one would think that it should influence Youth to heed the words of Experience. Youth, after the last war, felt it had little say, and could have made a better job of things. That Youth is today's Age with a wealth of hard-won knowledge. Who is now the better fitted to make the decisions?

INDISCRIMINATE OPPORTUNITY

While there are many discussions on the true meaning of Opportunity for All, a pleasing and successful demonstration goes on. It is not done as a demonstration, however, merely a pursuance of general policy.

In training, or on staff duty at the Canadian Mothercraft Hospital at present, and during the past two years, have been student nurses taking the Well Baby nursing course, or graduate nurses, doing post-graduate work, of Chinese, American Indian, Canadian Negro, Jamaican and Hindu origin. They have trained together with Anglo-Canadians, shared dormitory life with them, and been acceptable nurses in Canadian homes. The hope and aim of the Society always is that the representatives of these various races will carry their trained knowledge back to help their own people, and to prepare others to take advantage of the



Nora Gladstone

same opportunity.

This very constructive piece of work seems to be typically British. Race prejudice has never been evinced, in part no doubt due to the extremely cosmopolitan ancestry of so many Britishers; recent isolated instances of colour discrimination in England shocked public opinion.

By the way one of the Canadian Indians referred to above came from our own Church school at Cardston, a beautiful girl in appearance and character, now completing her regular hospital training in Vancouver, after, sad to relate, being refused admittance to a Calgary hospital. Her younger sister is now on the waiting list of the Mothercraft Hospital Training Course. The older, Miss Nora Gladstone, was chosen as one of her people's school girl representatives at the coronation of Their Majesties in 1938.

* * *

For winter reading we borrowed a number of biographies that take time. We have Madame Curie, and Elizabeth Fry, Thomas More and St. Francis of Assisi all sitting on our table awaiting turn, and the Letters of Gertrude Bell as our current reading. She was the Englishwoman who had such an extraordinary career in Persia, during and after the last war, dying and being buried in Bagdad in 1926. The letters begin when Gertrude Bell was six, and with the aid of explanatory notes give a clear picture of her life through the years of school, and college, and travel, and study, in preparation for the life in the East, which was not anticipated. It is a most interesting life and the letters make good reading.

To introduce a bit of variety we read, apart from newspapers and periodicals, several magazines, and at the present time find ourselves in the exciting and somewhat confusing state of having two "whodunit" serials on the go together. One is a weekly, the other a monthly, so the former, which is *The Opening Door*, by Helen Reilly is predominantly in mind. It is a very well balanced and worked out crime story, and, with but one more instalment to go, the mystery remains a mystery. Helen Reilly assumed new interest to us when we discovered that she is one of the clever Kiernan family, a sister of the well-informed John Kiernan of "Information Please" radio fame.

How do we get so much time to read in wartime, you might well ask, and in the face of exhortations to all women to do more and more. Eyes, which can no longer bring information to an active brain, must be proxied, for that brain still sends stout messages of

counsel and good cheer to thousands of readers. And so the pleasant task of reading aloud, far removed from any active war service, is, perhaps, more directly connected, nevertheless, than the wee bit of spinning and knitting and dyeing of wool which is done in odd minutes of all-too-short days.

* * *

THIS AND THAT

Someone—Hope by pen name—has written to say that the jelly which has been mentioned more than once as going liquid in the storage cupboard, can be stiffened with gelatine, and then put away and kept for a long time. An excellent hint. And Hope's note was so gratefully received. Now if Faith would follow Hope's example, what a pleasant trio we would have! "Hope" says: Your part of Church Messenger is always read first. It has a message all its own."

I have always spread soft butter or oil on the tops of the loaves of bread before they went into the oven. After seeing someone do it after the loaves came from the oven I have changed my method, for less butter is required and the crust is delectable.

The weather isn't in it these days, as a conversational topic, with the subject of substitute coal. Experiences are eagerly exchanged. Personally we found our share, something called Buckwheat, rather comforting in the mild weather. By leaving the furnace draft open we achieve a slow burning and less heat, and it all seems suitable.

We couldn't get bluestone this year to make up a solution with coarse salt in which to soak paper logs and pine cones for the fire. Neither as a matter of fact are there many cones this year. But our chemist, and churchwarden, gave us the names of chemicals, in powdered form which would give a gay coloured flame, if a little is shaken on. Potassium nitrate gives a blue flame, and potassium chlorate yellow, while strontium bromide gives red. A mixture of these has the rainbow effect. Sulphur was suggested, but, after all, the idea is to please the eye, not to punish the nose.

DEMOCRATIC STUDY AND ACTION IN THE HEALTH FIELD

One of the vital questions which arose in the discussion group on the Rural Community at the Canadian Malvern Conference was—"How can the Church give leadership in solving the problems which touch the life of the community?"

The most fundamental of these at the present time is community health—not only because of the increasing needs of rural people; but also because a Draft Bill for health insurance is under consideration at Ottawa. How will this Bill affect rural communities? What will they have to pay and what services will they be assured of getting? How does it compare with the plan proposed by the Canadian Federation of Agriculture? These and many other subjects of national importance

will be discussed over the National Farm Radio Forum. The topics are as follows:—

Introduction to Planning

Dec. 13—Proposed Government Health Plan.
Dec. 20—Health Plan proposed by Can. Federation of Agriculture.

Dec. 27—What the Forums say about it.
Farm Finance

Jan. 3—Who owns our Farms?

Jan. 10—Adequate Farm Credit can be supplied.

Jan. 17—Credit Unions.

Jan. 24—What the Forums say about it.

Jan. 31—The Importance of Planning the Rural Community.

The Rural Community

Feb. 7—The Church and the Rural Community.

Feb. 14—Other Agencies in the Rural Community.

Feb. 21—What the Forums say about it.

Feb. 28—United Nations Food Conference.
ity.

Current Farm Plans

Mar. 6—Planning 1944 Food Production.

Mar. 13—Community Projects.

Mar. 20—What the Forums say about it.

We stress the urgency of clergy giving leadership in this educational movement, by instituting and taking part in Forums in their own communities.

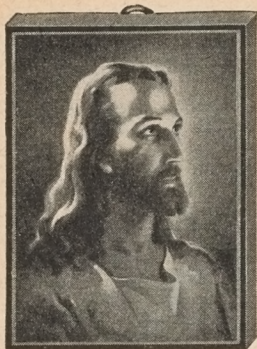
The reports coming in from the Forums all over the country last season, showed a growing community health consciousness; and that the people themselves have plenty to tell if given the opportunity. A most encouraging sign is the demand from many places—"We wish to embark on a study of our own community health conditions. How shall we go about it?" . . . It has been considered very much worthwhile, therefore, to institute a Community Health Study Project. Listening in on the broadcasts in the health series of the National Farm Radio Forum will furnish communities with a fine background for this project.

It is realized by all serious students of the subject of health insurance, that when a plan finally emerges, it will not perform miracles by itself—that it is a means to an end. Success will largely depend on the education and active intelligent participation of the people themselves. It is hoped that this project will assist in bringing this about—by enabling citizens to determine their own health needs and seeing where improvement is needed; and also developing a sense of community responsibility in the health field.

Awards will be presented for the best entries, which will be judged on the information gathered and the manner in which it is presented. The best will be published in periodicals to give leadership to others. If any of our readers are interested in taking part in a Community Health Study Project write immediately to—

Hon. George Hoadley
Health Study Bureau—30 Bloor West,
Toronto, Ont.

PICTURES



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ROBERT RAE,
General Manager.

The annual Christmas tree was held on Boxing Day, and teachers and children enjoyed a pleasant afternoon.

The Junior and Senior Choirs combined for the special Carol Service on St. Stephen's Day.

We are glad to see Mr. Kendricks back at the organ after his illness, and we extend our sincerest thanks to Miss Kay Hall for her kind assistance during his absence.

The annual meeting of the Choir will take place after the evening service on Sunday next at which Flt.-Lt. Swan will be a special speaker, but we must leave the account of this; and other annual meetings will be found in the February issue of the "Messenger."

GLENDON

We enjoyed a visit from our Bishop who conducted a Christmas communion service in the Norwegian Lutheran Church on Sunday December 19th assisted by the Rev. H. J. Jones. Communicants were present from Glendon and Therien.

We are always glad to welcome our Bishop into these outlying districts of the Diocese of Edmonton.

The Bishop and Mr. Jones are also visiting Rife Ashmont and Grand Centre on this trip.

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST, RIFE

Rev. W. Buxton of Edmonton conducted morning prayer at St. John the Baptist, on November 21. The attendance was small as a number of the regular congregation were unable to attend, some being absent in the city.

The November meeting of the W.A. was not held as the president, vice-president and secretary were in Edmonton at the time. The meeting for December will be at the home of Mrs. Dan Smith.

Proceeds from a social held in Eastbourne Hall, in aid of the church and W.A. funds, on November 11th, were approximately \$35.00.

Word has been received by his parents at Gurneyville that PO. James Lewes, R.C.A.F., previously reported missing, may now be presumed dead. The deepest sympathy of this congregation is extended to his parents and sister.

Bishop Barfoot and the Rev. R. S. M. Faulks motored from Edmonton to conduct the funeral service of Alexander M. Ross, who was laid to rest on Tuesday, December 7th. Mr. Ross had suffered an illness of over six months and all who spoke of him during that time could not help but notice his courage in the face of suffering. He was a veteran of the First Great War, having served four years in France. When war again broke out he re-enlisted and had been stationed at Red Deer in the R.C.A.-S.C. until ill health caused him to be honorably discharged. He was born in Sutherlandshire, Scotland, and in May, 1918, married Elizabeth Pettit. He leaves to mourn his loss besides a sorrowing wife, three sons, Roderick, Kenneth and Donald; one brother, Jack, at Rife, and a sister in Saskatchewan, also brothers and sisters in Scotland. There were many beautiful floral tributes showing

the high esteem in which the family are held. Pallbearers were Nicholas Peart, Wilfred Hillman, Edward Corbett, Walter Klaus, August Fries and Maurice Destrube.

Mr. Ross and the family have been among the most faithful supporters of the church. The congregation extend their deepest sympathy and earnest prayers that they may find consolation in their loss of a kind and good father and husband.

Flt.-Sgt. R. H. Press, R.C.A.F. at Paulson, spent a weekend leave with his family here.

Rural Deanery of Pembina

BARRHEAD—WESTLOCK

THE REV. JOHN LOW

The fine open winter has made large missions a lot easier for the clergy and all the loyal souls who are the backbone of the various parish churches. The Christmas season opened for this mission on the Sunday before Christmas when the congregation of

Christ Church, Jarvie

came together for their Christmas Communion. On the Saturday a very happy little party for the Sunday School was carried off with lots of fun and the interesting little play presented by the children had a real Christmas message. It should be mentioned here that the recent work of Miss Camp and the patience of the few ladies who have continued in it, has started a successful school and every support and encouragement to them should be forthcoming. On Sunday afternoon a quiet service was held in the church in memory of Trooper Luke Plant who "fell" recently in Italy. The lectern, which his mother has presented as a memorial, will be treasured by the parish. In the evening a most interesting confirmation class met at the home of Mrs. Lees.

The W.A. at Jarvie feels quite smug about the extraordinary success of its recent sale of work. Certainly this small group of church women are to be congratulated upon their efforts and results.

So on to

Athabina

where the Christmas service on Monday evening brought forth practically the whole community. There is something very "Christmassy" about the shaft of light coming out of the little school windows and the nervous tension of the youngsters impatiently waiting for the service to be over; carols sung joyously, unencumbered by musical instruments. A community praising God!

Santa Claus came after the service, bringing with him loads of fruit and carefully hoarded candy. It was a great night.

Four miles north and one mile east of the highway at Hazel Bluff the lights of little

St. Stephen's Church, Sunnybank,

shone on Christmas eve and a few of the faithful sang their welcome to the Baby Jesus.

CHURCH MESSENGER

And later, at midnight, the congregation of

St. Philip's, Westlock,

gathered for the traditional midnight service. It was a delightful night and we were so glad to see that some who live a considerable distance from the church were able to come. The decorations of the church were up to their usual high standard. There was a glowing warmth in the hearts of our church family that night. The Child Christ was in our midst and so long as we keep the joy of that night in us we will surely grow in wisdom and stature.

Christmas morning dawned with a stormy warning of what can happen, but a happy group of parishioners came to

St. Luke's, Clyde

for their Holy Communion. It was nice to see several present who were home for Christmas. There are many members not with us, however, and we remembered them. Some at home sick or infirm, others serving their nation. They must have thought of us, too, for the parish family-spirit was apparent.

On the Feast of St. Stephen we had Holy Communion at

St. Mary's, Barrhead.

Here is a little parish church which lends itself especially to decoration and for many years Mrs. Bert Hanson has taken a leading part in such work. She excelled herself this year and we are thankful to her. It was good to see Mrs. Williams back after her recent illness and were only too sorry that sickness still holds some of our members at home. The Sunday School will resume its activities on the 9th of January and we expect now to be free of the epidemics which have played havoc with our organization. The young people of the church enjoyed a good party just before Christmas and look forward to more good times together. Don't neglect the Bible services on Wednesday evenings. They will be found to be most valuable.

All Saints', Belvedere

A service was conducted here on the afternoon of the Feast of St. John the Evangelist. Sickness prevented many from attending, but we were glad to be together for a Christmas service and hope that other opportunities will occur.

On Tuesday, the Innocent's Day, a large gathering from the neighbourhood of Lac La Nonne came together at

St. Peter's Church.

It was a pleasure to open up the church at Christmas time. Over forty were present and six children were baptized. After the service the congregation enjoyed a lunch—or should we say a feast. It was truly a family occasion and will be long remembered.

Holy Baptism: Audrey Laverne Young, Maxine Marie Young, Mellowdale; Robert Dallas Pritchard (grandson of the Groomsbridges at Clyde); Thomas Jack Starr, Orin Chester Starr, both of Ft. Assiniboine; David Robert Dzivinski, Nestow; Elaine Barraclough, Belvedere; Doris Elizabeth Silvester, Shirley Beatrice Silvester, George Alan Silvester,

Thomas Harvey Silvester, Dunstable; Melvin Ralph Larison, Elaine Rose Larison, Lac La Nonne.

Holy Matrimony: Jean Thomson to James Arthur Morgan, both of Dunstable; on November 15th, 1943.

Burials: Florence Lees, Barrhead, 4th December, 1943; Sarah Jane Hyslop, Lac La Nonne, 29th November, 1943; Florence Boxendall, Westlock, 8th December, 1943; Charles Ballsur, Glenreagh, 30th December, 1943.

ST. JOHN'S, CADOMIN

THE REV. T. TEAPE

The Christmas season has come and gone, but is not forgotten by those who attended one or more of the Christmas services. We, at Cadomin, were very fortunate as we had communion service Christmas eve, an evening prayer and carol service Christmas afternoon, and morning prayer on the Sunday after Christmas. The latter service was not as well attended as the other two. During the afternoon service a duet was sung by Iris Hurst and Jackie Smith. Winnie Johnson sang "Away In a Manger." At the conclusion of this service gifts were handed to the children of the Sunday School. Miss Catharine Moldowan and Mrs. Coppinger also received gifts, in recognition of their faithful work.

The above services were conducted by the Rev. T. Teape who, with his bride, arrived in Cadomin, December 17th. We do hope that the "housing situation" will be overcome and that Mr. and Mrs. Teape will be able to stay with us.

The Willing Workers held their annual tea and bazaar on December 18th. It was a very successful afternoon. All the bazaar goods were sold when the sale had been open only half an hour. The total amount realized during the afternoon was \$113.80. The Willing Workers thank all those who helped to make the afternoon a success.

We were all delighted to have a visit from Ft./Lt. N. J. Godkin during the first part of November. It was very fitting that Ft./Lt. Godkin was able to worship with us at morning prayer, as St. John's Church was built during his incumbency in Cadomin.

We extend our very best wishes to all for the New Year which is upon us.

ST. JOHN'S, ONOWAY

THE REV. F. A. PEAKE

Midnight Eucharist was sang in the parish church with a very good congregation in attendance, including several of our younger people who were able to come home for the holiday. On St. Stephen's Day we had a carol service instead of the Nativity pageant of previous years. The members of the choir are to be commended on their efforts with Mrs. Parker, solo parts being sung by Vivian Dales, "Bunny" Dixon and Messrs. Harry and Harold Galliford.

Our sincere thanks are extended to Mr. L. W. Dales for so kindly supplying electric lighting.

The Brookdale W.A. were busy for some time before Christmas in making-up and despatching parcels to the men and women from the district, who are serving with His Majesty's forces.

At the time of writing the Calahoo Christmas communion has been crowded out owing to its too close proximity to another service. However, it will be held in the near future.

The Vicar visited Rich Valley hall at the invitation of the Red Cross, on December 11th, to dedicate a Roll of Honour. The monthly service there was held on the following morning.

Holy Baptism: Donald Allan Donnelly, in Rich Valley church, on December 12th, 1943.

Burial: Georgina Mary Rose, in the Edmonton cemetery, on December 10th, 1943. R.I.P.

THE WABAMUN MISSION

THE REV. F. A. PEAKE, Priest-in-Charge

The Christmas communion was celebrated at St. Aidan's, Rexboro, and St. Matthew's, Duffield, on Christmas Day. The morning was rather stormy, which perhaps diminished the congregations.

The congregation of St. Saviour's, Wabamun had their celebration of St. Stephen's Day, while a carol service is to be held at St. Andrew's, Fallis, on Holy Innocents' Day.

ST. MARY'S, JASPER

THE REV. T. C. B. BOON

The chief event in the latter part of November was a visit from the Bishop, who spent the 24th and 25th with us. On the afternoon of his arrival he met the W.A. and commended its efforts to make the vicarage so much more attractive by the redecoration work it had done. In the evening he addressed the Men's Club on some of the problems arising out of the war, and laid stress upon the dangers attending upon the planned scheme for the reconstruction of society, warning us that too much planning would result in machinery likely to crush the spirit out of life when the machinery went into action. His address was followed with keen interest and promoted a lively discussion which is not yet completed.

On the Thursday evening he inducted the Reverend T. C. B. Boon, B.A., as Vicar of the Parish, and we were very glad to welcome a number of friends from the town, apart from the parishioners.

The following week might be described as W.A. Week. On St. Andrew's Day there was a celebration of Holy Communion at 10 a.m., and in the evening a Service of Intercession. On December 1st their annual Bazaar was held in the parish hall, with gratifying success, and there was a whist drive in the evening. Sincere congratulations must be extended to the President, Mrs. J. H. Jackson, and to her co-workers on their efforts.

The W.A. has met at the vicarage and at the home of Mrs. Jackson during the course of the past month.

The J.B.W.A. is still growing, and its pantry stall at the bazaar was well patronized.

Cub meetings have been held regularly and there is a prospect of extending the work to include a small troop of scouts.

The Sunday School was glad to welcome Mrs. Cleveland back from her holiday in Vancouver early in the month.

The Vestry has given a good deal of attention to publicity and is now publishing a monthly "News-LET," by which it is hoped to more closely contact members of the congregation who are unable to attend church regularly. The first issue was published in time to announce the Christmas services. The first of a number of notice boards has been placed in the local War Services Hostel. We are glad to have been able to welcome to the services an increasing number of the members of the Forces stationed here and in transit.

The Carol Service, on the evening of December 19th, was very well attended and so very much appreciated. Solo parts were taken by Mrs. Mahood, Miss Jacqueline Driver, Mr. Heckley, Mr. Snape, the Vicar, and five junior members of the choir—Marion White, Betty Cleveland, Elaine Orr, Marion Cleveland and Lorraine Wächter, and there were beautiful descants to some of the carols. Mr. Snape, our organist and choirmaster, must be sincerely congratulated upon the success of this unusually lovely service. In between the carols the Story of the Nativity was read.

Canon W. H. Morgan, H/Major, Principal Chaplain (P) M.D. 13, was a visitor here on December 15th.

The Rural Deanery of Vermilion

ST. JOHN'S, KITSCOTY

The congregation of St. John's had two very pleasing experiences on Sunday, December 12th, when we had with us the Rev. T. W. Teape for our Christmas services which were Holy Communion at 9 a.m., and Evensong at 7.30 p.m. Mr. Teape also took services at Golden Valley, Blackfoot and Islay.

We were also very pleased to welcome Mrs. Teape and to offer them our most sincere congratulations on their recent marriage. Mr. Teape left this mission about five years ago and it was like old times to hear him once again. We are sorry that he has not a parish nearer to us, as we would like a visit from him once in a while. We congratulate Cadomin on having the ministrations of Mr. Teape. We wish him God-speed and every success in his new work.

Our other pleasing experience was at Evensong, we found some of those lost Anglicans. We Anglicans are a queer lot. It seems as though somebody has to go away for a long time, or else die, or get married, and then we can really turn out. If our people would only realize the Church was and is the one foundation for Peace and Freedom, which is on everyone's lips. Seven hundred and twenty-nine years ago this Christmas there came into existence the Magna Charta, which is the foundation of all our liberties. It was on the Feast of the Epiphany that the Barons assembled at London and presented themselves in arms before the lawless tyrant King John, and forced him to sign the Magna Charta, and the first of his subjects to sign was Archbishop Langton.

HOLY TRINITY, GOLDEN VALLEY

In response to the Bishop's letter to all communicants, there was a good turnout of church members at a service held at the Valley church to celebrate Christmas Communion. The Rev. T. W. Teape officiated. There was a congregation of 25, with 14 communicants.

After the service Mr. Teape renewed acquaintance with old friends whom he had previously served for six years, and he and his wife received good wishes and congratulations on their recent wedding.

His friends at this point would be glad to welcome Mr. Teape back as their minister but they wish him the best of success in his ministry at Cadomin.

Rural Deanery of Wainwright

HOLY TRINITY, TOFIELD

THE REV. A. A. COURT

The Senior W.A. met at the home of Mrs. Holmes on November 25th, with seven members and one visitor present. Bazaar articles were handed in and priced and final arrangements made for this event which was held on December 4th in the curling rink. There was a good display of sewing, home cooking, poultry, etc., also a fishpond and children's table. The day was perfect which made it easier for our country friends to attend, and around \$130.00 was realized from the sale and donations. We wish to thank all who helped by their generous donations and assistance to make this event so satisfactory.

The service on St. Andrew's Day was held in our church and conducted by Mr. Barden. The day was stormy, and we were few in numbers, but we thought of many others who would be in a similar position—forming links to make a chain throughout the Diocese. We felt after all it was worth while.

Services have been held as usual, that of December 19th, taking the form of a Carol Service, outlined and conducted by the Rev. A. A. Court. This was appreciated by those present.

Our Christmas Communion was celebrated on December 24th at 11 a.m., the celebrant being the Rev. A. Wallis of Camrose. We were glad to welcome him again and thank him for making this service possible. The church had been decorated with spruce, etc., for these services.

The Sunday School Christmas tree party was held in the church hall on Saturday, December 18th. We were sorry some missed this happy event owing to the "Flu." Games, singing, lunch and presentation of gifts followed in order and the children enjoyed themselves immensely.

We are pleased to acknowledge the gift of a large radiant to be used in the hall. This was a donation received by the secretary from Mr. Marvin Pruden, of Edmonton.

WAINWRIGHT

THE REV. L. A. BRALANT

The annual meeting of the Battle Heights W.A. at the end of the old year was a revelation of what a small band of really devoted people can do. It has been a hard year, with depleted membership, bad transportation facilities, and the growing difficulties of rationing, etc. Despite all these things, however, this faithful group has carried on in prayer and material support of the Church's work. After gifts to the Vestry and Revolving Rectory Fund, there is a useful balance of over \$12 in the funds. We are happy that the group's determined to carry on in 1944, and we know that God is going to bless its endeavours.

The Little Helpers' Rally held at the same time at this point was a happy affair. There were six of them present and most of them joined in the hymns they had remembered from the previous year, "Jesus Bids Us Shine." What memories! The cake with its two candles was hailed with delight, as was also the ice cream. Master Ronnie King did a great job in blowing out the candles.

The Christmas services were very well attended this year, though it was regrettable that the Rector could not get to the Gilt Edge people owing to his sudden indisposition. We shall long remember the beautiful music rendered by our two violinists' friends in Wainwright. What a pity our choir is so indifferent that even a carol service cannot produce more than two or three. The Sunday school party was successful, but here again we were disappointed, as the Nativity play had to be abandoned through lack of enthusiastic support.

A few of us are gravely concerned about the falling away from Sunday School by so many children. We wish this concern was shared by the parents, but there seems to be nothing but indifference all around. One solution is that those who read this will come to the fortnightly prayer-meeting to seek God's will and way in the matter.

We have had some splendid mid-week gatherings for prayer and Bible study, and already we feel the power of this little group. Our numbers have kept up well for the most part; will you join us? Our Bible Reading Fellowship has increased now to over thirty members, but we still need more! The December readings were thrilling. No better New Year resolution could be made than to read God's Word daily, it is a source of inspiration and spiritual food which helps us keep our Christian vitality.

Holy Baptism: December 21st, 1943, Philip James Minter, Carolyn June Cartier; December 25th, 1943, Gary Bernard Anderson, James Gordon Greer.

Rural Deanery of Wetaskiwin

CAMROSE

THE REV. A. WALLIS

On St. Andrew's Day our W.A. met for corporate communion at 10 o'clock—part of the chain of Intercession. "... for thus the whole round world is

CHURCH MESSENGER

every day bound by chains of gold about the feet of God."

White Gift Sunday: Charles Dickens once said: "I love these little people; and it is not a slight thing when they, who are so fresh from God, love us."

We were glad to have Lieut. G. M. Wright with us on this Sunday morning. His brief talk was beautiful, leading up to two points: there wouldn't have been any Christmas if Jesus hadn't come; and, we give because we want to at Christmas time. "The wise may bring their learning . . . and the young people take their gifts up to the tree near the altar; the singing goes on"—we, too, would bring our treasure to offer to our King . . . and the very small ones go. A hush descends; there is something about these tiny people which brings the Christ-Child near.

On Wednesday, 22nd December, we had our Sunday School tree and concert. The plays were much enjoyed by an appreciative crowd of parents and friends. Santa was popular as ever, and the huge bag of toys on his back called forth shouts and squeals varying in cadence. Thank you very much, "Santa," and all who helped to make the party another happy memory for the children. Coffee and doughnuts were served and enjoyed.

Christmas Eve: Coral Communion, "O, come let us adore Him." The only thing about Christmas which never changes; wars may come and go, but the Christ-Child still rules, bringing Hope and Love and Peace to hearts which could not bear life's burdens without Him. "There is neither bond nor free . . . for ye are all one in Christ Jesus,"—this was the text. After all, it's what the Babe of Bethlehem came to do, make us all one in Him.

The Carol Service on Sunday night held the old fragrance. "He was such a little, little Child, Whom we all can love and understand, and through the carols we share in the homage to the 'Little Lord Jesus'."

The church looked beautiful. We had a cross over the altar. Surely it is symbolical, for only very young children could leave the Cross out of Christmas this year. The rest of the church was decorated with cedar and holly. We say "thank you" to the friend who gave the lovely carnations; the white and red flowers, the green of the cedar and our flags gave beauty a dignity. We are grateful to those who were able to help.

Looking for a message for the New Year, this little story came to mind: The skipper of one of our trawler patrols has introduced a simple and impressive ceremony on his boat before setting out on mine-sweeping. The men gather round the captain at the wheel and hold a one-minute service.

Captain: "Are we all here?" The men reply: "All of us here, under God's care. Amen."
"Then of what are we afraid?"
"We are afraid of nothing."

IMMANUEL, WETASKIWIN

THE REV. W. T. ELKIN

As always December was a busy month, beginning with the W.A. bazaar on the first Saturday. This

was very successful, about one hundred and seventy dollars being realized. The W.A. were able to complete paying of the rectory debt with interest and to give to the Vestry fifty dollars towards the payment of the last quarter's apportionment. The members are very grateful to the congregation for the success of their efforts.

On the 22nd the Sunday School held their annual concert under the supervision of Mr. C. Payne, Mrs. Higginson and Miss Jackson, an event which was enjoyable for both young and old.

Holy Communion was celebrated Christmas Day at 11 a.m., and on the following Sunday a Carol Service was held. Carols were also sung on January 2nd, when Miss M. Robinson returned to her place at the organ after the holiday season spent in Edmonton; Mrs. Percy Maggs having taken her place for the preceding week.

Annual meetings will be held during the coming weeks, the Sanctuary Guild having held theirs on January 5th, at the home of Mrs. Godfrey Baker. Mrs. E. Barnett was re-elected president, Mrs. Baker, vice-president, and Mrs. M. Higginson, secretary-treasurer.

ST. DUNSTAN'S, BITTERN LAKE

THE REV. A. WALLIS

At the Choral Communion Service Christmas morning there were twenty-one communicants; not a large number but with several away from home in the services and others for the holiday, it meant that most of the regular churchgoers remaining at home were there.

The W.A. bazaar and sale of home cooking on December 10th was a great success. It was held after the presentation of the National Film Board show and a large crowd was present.

Mr. J. B. Hayfield auctioned everything off in a most capable manner and the total receipts were very gratifying. Refreshments were sold after the sale and eighteen dollars was realized from this effort alone.

On behalf of the W.A. the Rev. A. Wallis extended a hearty note of thanks to everyone who had helped so generously both by donations and the giving of their time to make the sale an outstanding one; Mr. Hayfield coming in for special thanks for his well executed part.

The W.A. held their annual meeting at the home of Mrs. E. R. Ochsner, December 16th. Reports showed that all obligations had been met and that there was a very satisfactory bank balance, also the attendance had been very good throughout the year. All officers were re-elected with the exception of the Dorcas Secretary; Mrs. Butcher, who did not wish to take this office again. Mrs. J. B. Hayfield is the new Dorcas Secretary, assisted by Mrs. C. T. C. Roper.

A change was made in the flower committee—Mrs. Ochsner taking the place of Mrs. Roper.

The slate of officers is: President, Mrs. J. G. Baker; Vice-Pres., Mrs. Butcher; Sec.-Treasurer, Mrs. A. Birchall; Dorcas, Mrs. Hayfield; Educational, Mrs. Roper; Prayer Partner, Mrs. Briggs.

EMPTY SEATS

"Are you going to church this morning, Susie?" asked Dr. Clark, lying back in his easy chair, with the morning paper. "A doctor who is out day and night cannot be expected."

"No, I made jelly yesterday and I'm tired. I'm faithful enough to stay at home this cloudy morning," and Mrs. Clark curled up on the couch with the Bible she had not opened for a week, but it soon dropped from her hand. She was aroused by a strange voice saying:

"Now my good imps, what have you done today to weaken the kingdom of God?"

The voice came from a suspicious individual seated on a throne. Around him was gathered a crowd of terrible beings each with a crown of fire in which gleamed some name such as Malice Envy, Pride, Hatred and like passions:

"We have been busy today making empty seats in the churches," said one.

"Nothing could please me better," answered their king.

"I persuaded one man that he had a headache, and kept him from a sermon that might have changed his whole life," said one.

"I induced one good man to slip into his store and fix up his book," said another.

"Good!" said the king. "He'll soon give up."

"I was able to get one devoted man to visit some old friends," said another imp.

"I worried a good sister about her bonnet until she decided to stay at home until she got a new one," spoke up the imp labelled Pride.

"I induced a good many men and women to think they were not strong enough to get out," said one called "Indifference." "Of course, all these men will be at business tomorrow, even if they feel worse. But they would not go to church where they would have no special mental or physical strain. And the ladies would have been able to go calling or clean house, but I made them think they couldn't walk to church unless they were perfectly well."

"Very good," said the king, with a subtle grin. "Sunday headaches might often be cured by getting out into the fresh air, and backaches forgotten by thoughts driven to higher things. But you lying imps must use every weakness of the flesh to help make empty seats."

"I'm the 'Weather' imp," said the gloomy fellow. "I go around persuading people it is going to rain, or it is too cold, or too damp, or too hot, to venture out to church. It is enough to make your gloomy majesty laugh to see these people start out the next day in wind and bad weather. One would think it a sin to carry an umbrella and wear raincoats to church."

"Confidentially," said the king, "when I find a Christian who has no more concern about Sunday

weather than Monday—determined to make as much effort for spiritual gain as for worldly profit—I just give him up. It's no use to try to drag back the man or woman who goes to church in all kinds of weather."

"I am able to do a good deal with some of the ladies of the congregation," spoke up the imp labelled "Fashion of this World." "I can make people stay at home because the new hat did not come, or because their clothes are out of style, or because they have not gotten a new cloak."

"I have a better scheme than that," said another. "These people you keep away are indifferent—generally good-for-nothing folks, who are hardly worth getting into the kingdom of his satanic majesty, but I have a plan that empties seats of the workers in the church."

"That is just what we want," said the king.

"I make these people overwork on Saturdays. For instance, I induce some good man the preacher depends upon, or some devout Sunday School teacher to make Saturday the busiest day of the week. I just keep him rushed with neglected things till late at night, and then he oversleeps or is sick the next day, and can't get out."

"Splendid plan," cried Satan. "You are doing nicely. Preachers may work and pray over their sermons all week, but there will be no results in preaching to empty seats. One of the most important things we have to consider is how to keep people away from church on Sunday. Your plans are excellent, but I may suggest another good point. All preachers have imperfections—some fault or manner of speech. Get Christians to criticize their pastor, especially before their children. If you can stir up a spirit of fault-finding against the preacher, or among the members, it will empty many seats. People who get mad at each other do not care to go to church together. If the seats are empty, the preacher may be a saint, and preach like an angel, but to no purpose. It isn't a smart preacher, nor a rich congregation, nor a good location, nor a paid choir, that makes a church successful. It is the church members always being there that draws in the unconverted and makes a preacher eloquent. As soon as a Christian begins to stay at home from one excuse or another, I have a mortgage on his soul which, if he does not shake off, I will foreclose on the judgment day."

"You have none on mine!" cried Mrs. Clark, who had been listening with bated breath; "I'll go to church if only to defeat you."

"What's the matter, dear?" asked the doctor, "have you been dreaming?"

"Perhaps so, but I am going to church if I get there just in time for the benediction. I'll cheat Satan from this day out of one empty seat."

She kept her word, and influenced many others to let nothing trifling keep them from God's house, and one "down-town" church has begun to grow, and will soon be a great power for God, because of no "empty seats."

THE WOMEN'S PAGE

by Edith Peace

THE NEW YEAR.

First of all, a Happy New Year to you all! How wonderful it would be if by this time next year we could be rejoicing in the end of the war, and the safe homecoming of our loved ones!

I came across the following in a book by H. L. Gee, entitled, "The Miles Ahead:"

"Friend, thus far have we come together. Who knows what the next mile of the journey will be? Will it be up or down, in sunshine or in rough weather, along an easy friendly road, or by some lonely way where we must blaze a trail with none to cheer us on?

If easy, then lighten another's burden if you can. Let your song cheer a fellow traveller. If need be, give him your strong hand. Preach little to him, but talk pleasantly of whatsoever things are good. So may your own journeying be lighter, and may you come to the end, not alone, but in company with friends.

And if the way be hard, be strong and faint not. Be of good cheer. Carry with you that sure promise of One Who said, 'Lo, I am with thee, even unto the end.' Your burden may be heavy, but your back will be strong enough to bear it.

Go forth with unfaltering step, with unshakable faith, for to brave souls no evil can befall, and for those who walk humbly there comes day by day a serenity and peace which the world can never take away.

Go, therefore, with confidence. Enter the new year with cheerfulness. And the grace of our Lord, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Spirit go with you, that day by day you may have the greatest of possessions, the peace of God which passeth all understanding."

CHRISTMAS.

It was a lovely Christmas, and even though the weather turned a little colder for a day or so, it was never unpleasant. We were at the Christmas Eve celebration, and it was so beautiful. Then to come outside in the early Christmas morning and find the snow falling! It seemed a perfect setting.

And how generous our friends are! To see all the parcels piled up under the tree, and to open them before we went to bed, and to realize the wealth of kindness and goodwill! It all helps us to know a little of the goodness of God, and the Christmas gift of the Christ Child. Christmas morning was

the time for the children, and how they loved to open up their parcels. We have got a little bit beyond Santa Claus in our household, but the magic was there all the same. I do hope you had a happy Christmas, too.

LORD OF THE POTS AND PANS.

Lord of all pots and pans and tins,
I have no time to be
A Saint, by doing lovely things,
By watching late with Thee;
Or praying in the dawnlight,
Or storming Heaven's gates,
Make me a Saint by getting meals
And washing up the plates.
Warm all the kitchen with Thy love,
And fill it with Thy peace,
Forgive me all my worrying, and
Make all grumbling cease.
Thou Who didst love to give men food,
In room or by the sea,
Accept this service that I do—
I do it unto Thee.

ANNUALS.

We shall be holding our annual W.A. meeting this month, and there will be a number of offices to fill. Fortunately, we have had a most successful year financially, and all our events seemed to raise money easily. I have noticed, too, that the W.A.'s which held bazaars all seemed to have unusual success, and one that I attended was sold out of the articles I wanted before I got there. I suppose it is because there are so many things which one cannot get at the stores these days, or at least which one could not seem to get before Christmas.

I would like to urge a ready acceptance of office by those who are nominated, and have the ability to fill the position. Don't decline on the plea that you are too busy, unless you really are too busy. It is the busy people who usually do the work anyway. Moreover, we need to ask ourselves whether the work at which we pretend to be busy is of more importance than the challenge of our W.A. work. "Put into our hearts the things we should do and say to Thy glory." Perhaps God is calling you to be the new President, or Secretary, or Junior leader, or whatever the office is for which you have been nominated. Let your's be a ready acceptance, for the branch may need just the touch which you alone can give.

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